

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

OF

## Politics and General Literature.

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### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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#### Politics of Europe.

We have not had access to any French Papers brought by the *Nancy*, and accordingly select from the two Daily Prints to which these French Journals were sent, whatever has been noted in them as worthy of publication.

We close to-day our Extracts from the last number of the *EDINBURGH REVIEW*, having now given the principal of them entire, a service for which the great majority of our Readers in the Interior of India will we know be thankful.

The *MADRAS COURIER* of the 1st instant reached us yesterday, up to that period none of the June Ships had reached the Roads from England. The *LADY RAFFLES* was to sail for Bengal on that or the following day.

*French Papers.*—Through the kindness of a Friend we have received Files of the following French Papers brought out by the *NANCY*, extending from the 1st of June, to within a few days of the date of her departure: The *JOURNAL DES DEBATS*, *L'INDICATEUR*, *LA RUCHE D'AQUITAINE*, and *LE MEMORIAL BORDELAIS*.

After a hasty glance over these papers, it appears to us that they do not communicate any intelligence of importance of which we had not previous intimation through other sources, regarding the affairs of Great Britain.

According to accounts from Madrid, the Cortes had in the sitting of the 16th of May stopped the organisation of an army of 30,000 men destined to be immediately sent towards the Pyrenees; 14,000 were to occupy the frontiers on the side of Pampeluna, and the rest to be stationed in Catalonia.

On the 9th of June the King of France, in reply to an address from the Chamber of Peers, informed them that since the opening of the session he had received advices which assured him that peace would not be disturbed in the East.

Accounts from Smyrna paint in glowing terms the despair of the Greeks, who seeing no safety but in flight, propose to emigrate with their families and effects. It is supposed they will take refuge in the Papal states, particularly Romagna, on account of the pacific character of the government. It is supposed also that a great Greek Emigration will set in on the shores of Provence; and that perhaps the isles of Hieres may be the site of a new Grecian City. The wishes of the Greeks were very much turned towards Syracuse, but they were deterred by the frightful picture which the Neapolitan refugees give of its government.

The *JOURNAL DES DEBATS* of the 14th June commences with stating that the news from Madrid are of an afflicting nature. That the insurrection in Catalonia continues, and it is weary of repeating the accounts of petty skirmishes. Official accounts from San Pitas state that after having killed a great number of peasants they had made 16 prisoners. Romugusat, an inhabitant of Abisbal and ringleader of the rebels had entered into Calaf with a thousand men and takes the title of "COMMANDANT OF THE FIRST DIVISION OF THE LAW OF GOD." He disarmed the Militia, and also a party of Custom House Officers, and seized the cash, and imposed a contribution of 250 duros. The insurgents under Mijas amounted to 700 men, and opposed a vigorous resistance to the forces sent against them, supporting their attack for three

hours and then retiring: 800 insurgents were collected under a Capucin at Saint Lucie de Naves. The attempt of Lieutenant Colonel Cuesta, at Caceres, had not been successful; for hardly had he assembled a few malcontents when he was obliged to take to flight.

It was rumoured that there was a great disturbance in Valencia on the 30th of May, the day of St. Ferdinand. Twenty-four Artillerymen (artilleurs) of the 30th battalion proceeded to the Citadel to fire salutes in honour of the King; and being in the Citadel they shut themselves up in it and at every gun that was fired they made the air resound with shouts of "*Long live the absolute King! death to the Constitution and the constitutionalists!*" These cries put the people in a fury; the twenty-four Artillery men were forced to lower the draw bridges; the effervescence became so great that the artillery men were all massacred, and with them general Elio, notwithstanding that he refused to put himself at their head. The soi-disant Apostolic Army is said to have assembled again on the banks of the Minho.

According to advices from Constantinople of the 14th of May, the soldiers of the Ottoman Marine had risen against Haleb Effendi the Sultan's favorite, whom they accused of having counselled pacific measures, particularly the evacuation of Wallachia and Moldavia; but this favourite had the good fortune to save his life. That the Porte had agreed to abandon these two Provinces, and that peace was settled upon, seems by the French papers, to have been generally credited about the middle of June. Advices from the frontiers of Moldavia of the 21st of May, say that the Emperor Alexander after reviewing his troops had immediately repaired to Warsaw.

Letters from Madrid dated the 3d of June paint the city as in a state of continual alarm, as if on the eve of a bloody civil war, their sorrow and despair being further augmented by the accounts from the Provinces. On the 30th of May, the day of the Anniversary of the King, there had also been a seditious movement at Aranjuez by which his Highness Don Carlos nearly lost his life. The crowds shouting "*Live the absolute King, down with the Constitution*" formed at the gates of the palace occupied by the Royal Family. The garrison and national Militia repaired to the spot to disperse them, as well as the Infant Don Carlos, to whom they attribute sinister views, and who was insulted in an indecent manner by the national guards. However order was restored and the principals arrested. It is added that the Infant was insulted by only one voice.

One of the individuals tried for being concerned in the late disturbances at Lyons, has been condemned to a year's imprisonment and other three discharged.

The *RUCHE D'AQUITAINE* of the 19th of June, says, the accounts received from Spain forbode the most direful event: the people wish no part of the Constitution, and this wish so strongly expressed disconcerts the liberals. The troubles of Aranjuez above mentioned caused a secret meeting of the Cortes. On the 8th of June, this assembly, which will very soon (says the French paper) be called the "Convention," decreed that the two Infants, brothers of his Majesty, should be exiled, one to a city in the province of Murcia and the other to the isle of Leon. It will be recollected that in this island took place the first insurrection against the King. In thus isolating Ferdinand from his family the Cortes hope to succeed the more easily in overturning the

throne entirely. But Spain, which showed such heroism during the Invasion—will not suffer the regicide to be consummated: the excess of evil will soon produce the remedy.—*Huskarn.*

*Galvani's Messenger, Paris, June 18.—London, June 14, 1822.*  
—*Cotton Wool.*—The market is quiet and very little business doing; 350 Bowed were taken in at 9d. to 9½d. per lb.

*Spices.*—East India Company's Pepper done as low as 6½d.

*Indigo.*—1,600 Chests declared for sale by the East India Company, has made no alteration as to prices, notwithstanding several small parcels have lately been bought in at auction, chiefly Spanish. Guatimalas have sold rather better, and other sorts have gone off at fair prices, 93 serons Caraccas at 8s. 3d. to 10s. 3d. per lb.; a few lots 5s. 9d. to 7s. 10d. also 41 ditto ex Nymph, a Campeachey 5s. 3d. to 7s. 5d. per lb.

*Sir Alexander Boswell.*—On Monday, the 10th of June, the trial of Mr. Stuart, for killing Sir Alexander Boswell, Bart. in a duel, came on before the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh. After the examination of witnesses, &c. which occupied 15 hours, the Jury, without leaving the box, returned an unanimous verdict of *Not Guilty*. We are constrained, from the length of our Parliamentary debates, to postpone the particulars of the trial till our next.

*Emperor Alexander.*—The French politicians of the Bonapartist school with whom "might was right," have been woefully in the wrong in their speculations on the policy of the Russian Cabinet. They could not conceive that the Emperor Alexander, who appeared to have the power of overthrowing the Turkish Empire, would want the will!—With respect to his Imperial Majesty, he may occultly be the most ambitious alive, but he has as yet given no indication of any readiness to sacrifice the sense of justice to the hope of personal aggrandizement; and we think it unfair reasoning to infer at once from the simple possession of a great empire, the disposition to make it larger by injustice and oppression. Whenever his Majesty does outstep the bounds of moderation, we hope we shall be the first to notice and reprehend his conduct.—*Times.*

*Fashionable Circles.*—An accident happened yesterday in the West end of the Town, which although not novel, we believe, in the fashionable circles, caused much gossip in the neighbourhood of St. James's. As a Royal Duke was on his way to Court, the second carriage in his suite was rudely stopped by a certain description of gentry near Duke-street, who rudely conveyed the equipage to a place of safety in a very different quarter from its original destination. What became of the gallant fare in the coach we learned not. "The ignorant impatience" of an upholsterer is the alleged cause of the direful catastrophe.—*British Press.*

*Fever.*—In the more distressed parts of the Irish Western Counties, contagious fever accompanies the scarcity of provisions—famine and pestilence go hand in hand.—*Courier.*

*London, June 10.*—On Saturday the dispatches were closed at the East India House, and delivered to the Pursers of the following ships, viz.—WARREN HASTINGS, Captain G. Mason; WINCHELSEA, Captain W. Adamson; DORSETSHIRE, Captain S. Lyde—for Bengal direct.

The trial of Mr. Borthwick, which was to have come on before the High Court of Justiciary on Monday next, is put off till Monday the 17th instant.—*John Bull.*

*Lisbon.*—Letters have been received from Lisbon to the 4th of May by the way of France, which communicate the important intelligence of a conspiracy having been formed there to overthrow the Constitutional system, but which has detected sufficiently early to prevent the ill consequences which might otherwise have attended it. It appears that the first step taken by the Government, on being made acquainted with the plot, was to issue a Decree for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, which has been in force ever since the adoption of the Constitutional System. This measure led to the arrest of 26 persons; some of the advices mention, that 28 persons were taken up, who

were said to be implicated in the conspiracy. All these individuals were examined privately, six of whom it was determined should be immediately sent out of the kingdom. We understand that none of them were persons of any consideration.

*United States.*—The House of Representatives in the United States is said to consist of 97 lawyers, 59 farmers and planters, 13 merchants, 15 physicians, four manufacturers, and one clergyman.

*Price of Tea.*—The advance which has already taken in the price of tea is one of the first consequences of the intelligence from China.

*Maintenance of the Poor.*—The total amount of the sums expended during the year 1820 for the maintenance of the poor in England and Wales was as follows:—

|  |            |    |
|--|------------|----|
| Total in the counties of England and Wales.. | £7,329,594 | 7  |
| Expended in towns .....                      | 1,371,495  | 17 |
| Expended in other parishes .....             | 5,958,098  | 10 |

*Mrs. Palmer.*—Amongst the least ostentatious donations in favour of the Irish poor, is that of Mrs. Palmer, of West Moulsey, Surrey, who has directed her agent in Ireland to distribute fifteen hundred pounds amongst the poor cottagers on her estates in the county of Mayo.

*Lion Office.*—On Thursday were landed, and immediately forwarded to His Majesty's Lion-office, in the Tower of London, a majestic male Lion, and a fine Lioness. They were escorted by their keepers, and safely placed in dens well adapted for the health and comfort of those noble animals. Since the appointment of Mr. Alfred Cops, the great improvement and additions to this grand National Establishment are beyond our most sanguine expectations.

*Deal, June 1.*—Sailed the HIBERNIAN, M'Intosh, for Madras and Bengal; also at noon, the BOMBAY MERCHANT, Clarkson, for Bombay.

*June 1.*—Sailed the DAVID SCOTT, Bunyan, for Madras and Calcutta, and the rest of the outward-bound for their different destinations.

*Fishguard, June 1.*—The PROVIDENCE, of Newport, James, from Limerick to London, was run down by the THALIA, Haig, for Beagal, on the 17th ultimo, at night, twenty miles off the Start.

*Paris, May 30.*—The King yesterday presided at a Council of Ministers. The Count Molé, the Marquis Dessolles, the Barons Jourcourt and d'Albert, Ministers of State are said to have been dismissed.

The Saxon Envoy at Munich has formally demanded the hand of the Princess Elizabeth of Bavaria, daughter of the King, for Prince John of Saxony.

Letters from Frankfort of the 24th May say, "Whilst letters from Vienna, of good authority, announce the evacuation of Walachia and Moldavia by the Turks, and of the nomination of the new Christian Hospodars in those Principalities (the AUSTRIAN OBSERVER has not spoken of this last circumstance) as very near,—whilst the Austrian Government seems to share the conviction that the differences between Russia and the Porte are upon the eve of being accommodated, letters direct from Constantinople maintain that it is only after the repression of the insurrection in Greece and the Morea that the Porte will really consent to make any concessions to Russia. It is possible, adds the letters direct from Constantinople, that the Porte has politely given some hopes of satisfying the demands of Russia, but the question of peace or war still remains doubtful." Will the evacuation of the principalities satisfy the ambition of Russia, after exhausting its treasury, and maintaining nearly a million of men in arms?—*Constitutionnel.*

*Frontiers of Moldavia, May 9.*—According to letters from Bucharest, the Pasha and the Kiaja Bey had given permission to foreigners to depart after having received orders from the Porte; but when the foreign Consuls gave in their lists, and the Pasha saw there were nearly 2,000 persons who wished to profit



by the permission, he declared that he would not grant it except to a few persons who could not convey away their property. Several Boyards who resided on their estates have been assassinated by the light troops which scour the country.

*Trizate, May 15.*—A vessel arrived yesterday from Smyrna, which it left the 28th April. The Captain reports that tranquillity was not re-established in that unfortunate city. Up to the 29th of April the Captain Pasha had undertaken nothing against Samos, and a part of the inhabitants of Scio still defended themselves in the mountains of that island; the town of Scio was nothing but a heap of ashes. This vessel met in the waters of the Morea a Greek fleet, which he learnt was going to the aid of Samos.

*Madrid, May 20.*—In the Sitting of the Cortes of yesterday, the first proposition for a Special Committee, to put on his trial the political chief of Madrid, was rejected, 86 to 56. The day for the discussion of the second proposition against the same functionary is not yet fixed. The motive for the latter appears to be more curious.

It is announced to day, that the Ministry, yielding to the pressing instances from all parts, have decided to confine the chief command of Arragon to General Quiroga.—*Constitutionnel*.

*May 19.*—The Andalusian Messenger has brought an official despatch, announcing that there is a great fermentation in the Canary Islands, and that there is great reason to believe they intend to declare themselves independent.

*Paris, May 21.*—The AUGSBURG GAZETTE announces that the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, Sir Thomas Maitland, passed through Inspruck, the 17th May, on his way from Italy to Constance.

*Hague, May 27.*—The Report made by Mr. Van de Male Denis on a petition from the inhabitants of East Flanders, respecting the distress of agriculture, is now published, having been read in the Second Chamber of the States General. The substance of this petition is, that while the barns of the farmers overflow with corn of their own growth, foreigners are permitted an unrestricted importation, by which they participate in the only sales that can now be effected.

*Vienna, May 20.*—Since the arrival of the last post from Turkey, the report of the approaching evacuation of Moldavia and Walachia by the Turkish troops gains ground, and it is generally affirmed that according to an agreement made in a conference with the Reis Effendi, on the 18th of April, the troops will be withdrawn by the middle of May. In consequence of the pacific news our funds continue to rise. To-day the prices were—Metalliques 75½; Bank Shares 687 5-16.

*St. Petersburg, May 7.*—The new Tariff has not yet made any change in the course of trade.

It may be noticed as something singular, that among the articles imported by sea, there is a cargo of oats, which has met with a good sale.

The CONSERVATEUR IMPARTIAL and the ACADEMIC GAZETTE contain no latter news from Turkey than an article from Dubosar, 31st March, O. S. (12th April), which relates the excesses of the Turks in Walachia.

*Berlin, May 21.*—"The Frankfort Journal affirms," says our STATE GAZETTE, "that the Russian Government has made communications to the Cabinets of Berlin and Copenhagen respecting the cordon of troops which Russia stations on the coast of Esthonia, Livonia, and Courland; that Prussia, in concert with Russia, is strengthening its troops in Pomerania, with the intention of sending them to the coast, so as to form a continuation of the Russian cordon; and that a Russian Staff Officer is to go to Riga to make arrangements on this subject." Of all this we have not the slightest knowledge here.

*Diamond Cross.*—The Countess of Jersey lost a diamond cross, worth at least 1000*l.* as she was returning from the fête at the Opera House on Thursday night—but the loss took place, we understand, after her Ladyship had left her carriage, in Berkeley-square; so that the crowd outside the theatre are not answerable for the loss.

*Cactus Grandiflorus.*—An uncommonly fine specimen of the 19th Class of the *Night-blooming Cereus*, is in the possession of Mr. Bath, and blossomed on Tuesday night; the white cup measuring one foot in circumference, inclosing innumerable stamens as fine as silk, and surrounded by nearly one hundred guard leaves, two feet and a half in circumference; the stem measured five inches. The perfume was most exquisitely delicate, but, as is the property of the plant, the blossom closed before morning, not to be seen again perhaps for years.—*Norwich Mercury*.

*Important.*—A report is afloat that the courtesy of the Crown will be graciously extended to the consorts of Bishops, so as to permit them to participate in the temporal dignities of their spiritual Lords; and thus will be removed from among the anomalies of some of our institutions, one which gives an awkward irregularity to an elevated portion of our social order; for it is a great incongruity not to suffer the spouses of Spiritual Peers to repose upon the same proud pedestal of rank which sustained the Ladies of Lay Nobles.—*Dublin Correspondent*.

*Lord Barrymore.*—A report is in general circulation, that Lord Barrymore died a few days ago near Paris. Should it prove correct, long leases can now be granted for tenements at Fermoy.—*Idem*.

*Sportman's Hall.*—We hear that George Osbaldeston, Esq. is likely to become a resident in Lincolnshire again; Harrington Hall, near Spilsby, is the spot named for "Sportman's Hall."—*Doncaster Gazette*.

*Nightingale.*—Some parts of the adjoining counties of Shropshire and Staffordshire, have this year received a visit from "the night warbling bird," the nightingale, a circumstance, we are told, of uncommon occurrence.—*Chester Chronicle*.

*Liverpool, May 24.*—The Senate of the United States was, on the 24 ultimo, literally smoked out of the House of Congress, city of Washington, in consequence of a north-west wind, which obstructed the draught of the chimneys. "No wonder," says an American Paper, "the nation should be in a scolding humour, when they know that millions have been spent on a national edifice, which does not even afford the common protection from smoke that we enjoy in our private dwellings."

A gentleman being asked what that the Marquess of Londonderry could possibly mean by the expression "the subtle fluid of a simple unit," when speaking of the circulating medium, in the debate on Monday se'nnight, replied "Oh! no doubt the Noble Lord alluded to the water-mark in a one pound note."

A street in Trowbridge has been waggishly named *Heavenly-street*, from seven persons of the name of *Angel*, two of the name of *Church*, four of the name of *Parsons*, and one of the name of *Clerk*, residing in it.

*Enterprising Blacks.*—The officers and crew of the brig TRAVELLER, which sailed from this port yesterday, on a whaling voyage, are all of them blacks, with the exception of the cook, who is a white man!—*New Bedford paper*.

It seems that a pick-pocket has been discovered among his Majesty's servants, and the papers term it a singular circumstance. We are not aware of the novelty.—*Traveller*.

The following neat *jeu d'esprit* is from the TRAVELLER:

*Serious Accident.*—As the Marquis Salisbury was sitting, a few days since, doing nothing but enjoying at his ease the prospect before him, and thinking his situation perfectly secure, Lord Normanby, without the slightest intention of doing him any personal injury, caused his seat to be removed from under him, in consequence of which he came to the ground; he was evidently much hurt, and of course, the spirits of the PARTY very much damped: every consolation was administered, and a physician immediately sent for, who pronounced that the JOINT was put out, and we regret to add, that it could not be re-set. The Marquis, however, we are happy to learn, when our last account came away, was going on as well as could be expected.

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*Bankrupt Schedule.*—The following has been transmitted to us as a genuine copy of a Schedule, recently presented by a bankrupt in this town, Liverpool, (who had been in trade only about three months) to his commissioners. It contains some very edifying and amusing items:—the PITT CLUB admission fee and dinner ticket are amongst the number, and they are placed in admirable juxtaposition with the doctor's bill and the head-shaving. The bankrupt's passion, for making presents, and seeing sights, is also worthy of notice.

|   | £  | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| Board and lodging, from March to June.....              | 15 | 0  | 0  |
| Washing paid my Mother.....                             | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Sundry clothes bought for ditto.....                    | 8  | 0  | 0  |
| Presents to my Aunt.....                                | 2  | 10 | 0  |
| Ditto ditto Aunt.....                                   | 2  | 10 | 0  |
| Ditto different friends.....                            | 10 | 10 | 0  |
| Two pieces Irish Linen.....                             | 6  | 2  | 0  |
| Making shirts, cambric, &c.....                         | 3  | 11 | 0  |
| Paid for flannel.....                                   | 3  | 6  | 0  |
| Five journeys to Liverpool, and sundries bought there   | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Journey into Yorkshire and back, with sundry ex-        |    |    |    |
| penses.....   | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Paid for poney, saddle, &c.....                         | 14 | 0  | 0  |
| Keep of ditto.....                                      | 15 | 0  | 0  |
| Expenses going to Patricroft several times.....         | 3  | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto Harwood, Stockport, &c.....                       | 3  | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto to the Theatre, self and others, with coach fare. | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto OPENING the Warehouse—a TREAT.....                | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Do. in clothes, and sundries before 'MARRIAGE'..        | 15 | 0  | 0  |
| Do. for admission for PITT-CLUB.....                    | 3  | 0  | 0  |
| Do. DINNER TICKET.....                                  | 1  | 5  | 0  |
| Paid Dr.....  | 3  | 3  | 0  |
| Cupping and medicines.....                              | 2  | 2  | 0  |
| Paid for two wigs, head shaving, &c.....                | 4  | 0  | 0  |
| Present to Miss——, on her birth-day.....                | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto to Mrs.——, on her birth-day.....                  | 2  | 10 | 0  |
| Ditto in bonnets, &c. to different persons when married | 15 | 0  | 0  |
| Expenses on marriage.....                               | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Posting from Manchester to London, drivers, &c.....     | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Expenses 4 days on the road, beds, eating, &c.....      | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto incurred in looking over Chatsworth, Woburn,      |    |    |    |
| Buxton, Matlock, and other places.....                  | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Two days expenses at the Castle and Falcon.....         | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Expenses to the English opera 11. 4s.—Ditto Drury       |    |    |    |
| Lane theatre £2.—Ditto Astley's £1 4s.—Ditto Co-        |    |    |    |
| vent Garden £2.—Do. French £1.—Do. Surrey               |    |    |    |
| theatre £1 4s.—Do. Italian opera £3.—Ditto So-          |    |    |    |
| merset House 10s.—Do. Belzoni's 10s.—Ditto              |    |    |    |
| Saint Paul's 10s.—Ditto Vauxhall £5.—Ditto Mo-          |    |    |    |
| numment 5s. Ditto Coronation-day £5. 6s.—Ditto          |    |    |    |
| Westminster Abbey £1.....                               | 24 | 12 | 0  |
| Paid Doctor's bill.....                                 | 16 | 0  | 0  |
| Daily coaches for Mrs.——, before leaving London..       | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Expenses to Windsor.....                                | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Sundry little presents brought from London for dif-     |    |    |    |
| ferent friends.....                                     | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Present to Miss——.....                                  | 1  | 10 | 0  |
| Paid for a suit of Mourning, in London, repairs, &c.    | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto different articles in clothing, for Mrs.——, when  |    |    |    |
| there.....  | 12 | 0  | 0  |
| Six weeks' lodging, at five guineas per week....        | 31 | 10 | 0  |
| Paid for use of kitchen fire, 14s. per ditto.....       | 4  | 4  | 0  |
| Do. for provision, wine, &c. about 20s. per day.....    | 40 | 0  | 0  |
| Do. for Nurses, Waiters, Servants, &c. for Mrs.——       |    |    |    |
| when poorly.....  | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Extras bought in Fruit and other articles for Mrs.——    |    |    |    |
| when.....   | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| Journey to Manchester and back, and expenses.....       | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Posting from London to Ellesmere, drivers, &c.....      | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Expenses on the road at Oxford, Birmingham, and         |    |    |    |
| other places during 3 days travelling.....              | 7  | 0  | 0  |
| Expenses to and at Ellesmere.....                       | 3  | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto of journey to Hawkstone.....                      | 5  | 0  | 0  |

|   |    |    |   |
|---|----|----|---|
| Coach fare, &c. from Ellesmere.....                   | 5  | 0  | 0 |
| Carriage of Trunks by Van to and from London.....     | 1  | 15 | 0 |
| Washing, Shoe cleaning, extra Bed Linen, &c. when     |    |    |   |
| Mrs.——was unwell in London.....                       | 2  | 10 | 0 |
| Sundry sums for housekeeping during the time when     |    |    |   |
| in London and since.....                              | 30 | 0  | 0 |
| Pocket expenses, sums paid in various ways, in small  |    |    |   |
| sums for dinners in town, fruit, wine, and all other  |    |    |   |
| petty expenses.....                                   | 30 | 0  | 0 |
| Small articles bought in Trinkets, Jewellery, &c. and |    |    |   |
| given to various friends.....                         | 20 | 0  | 0 |
| Additional Sum paid in housekeeping, for the amount   |    |    |   |
| of Goods pledged.....                                 | 20 | 0  | 0 |
| Paid——for Atlas and other Books.....                  | 10 | 0  | 0 |

£571 11 0

Deduct for Miss——and others' shares, for the time  
they stayed in London, on and for their own account 46 0 0

£560 11 2

*Libel on the late Queen.*—In the case of the King v. Arrow-smith and others, judgment was pronounced in the Court of King's Bench, on Monday last. Mr. Justice Bailey, in pronouncing sentence, remarked, "there could be no doubt, in point of law, that they were libels, and that they went greatly beyond that which came within the legitimate bounds of newspaper observation. A newspaper was the proper medium of ordinary communication and dispassionate discussion, but it never ought to be made the medium of private or political calumny."—The court, however, were lenient towards the defendants, as they had not offered any plea of justification to the vile libels proved. The sentence was, "that Thomas Arrowsmith should pay a fine to the King of £300; and that William Shackell and John Weaver should be imprisoned three months in the custody of the Marshalsea, to be computed from the expiration of their present confinement, and should further pay a fine of £100 each to the King; and that, at the conclusion of their respective imprisonments, they should each enter into personal sureties of £500, and find two securities of £100 each for their future good behaviour."

*Ice.*—The importation of ice into this kingdom pays an *ad valorem* duty on its arrival. A dispute arose, a few days ago, about the value of a cargo, and, before the dispute was settled, the captain of the vessel was deprived of his freight, and the custom-house of the duty, by the melting of the ice.—*Liverpool Mercury*, May 21.

*Clerical Preferment.*—The Archbishopric of Armagh has been given to Lord John George Beresford; and the Archbishopric of Cashel to Doctor Alexander, the near relation of the Earl of Caledon. Thus has the apostolical family of Beresford, after picking and choosing every valuable see, as it has become vacant, for the last twenty years, and after having had at one time three of its Members upon the Bench, accomplished one of the great objects of its avarice and ambition, in the attainment of the Primacy of Ireland. It only remains, that the Marquis of Waterford be made a Duke, and nothing further can be asked. They already possess among themselves, their connexions, and dependants, one fourth of the whole patronage of Ireland! The Earl Caledon, whose relation has got the other Archiepiscopal Mitre, is one of the most considerable Parliamentary Patrons in the service of Ministers. In no other character is he, or any of his family known.—The Member for Old Sarum is never absent from the House.—*Morning Chronicle*.

*Duke of Richlieu.*—Paris papers, which have arrived to the 19th of May, announce the death of the Duke of Richlieu, late Prime Minister of France. He had returned to the capital on Thursday night from a country-house, belonging to his Duchess, at Creteil, and was twice taken ill on the road. The King upon hearing of his illness, sent his own physicians to attend him, but he died on Friday, of a brain fever, at his Hotel in the Place Vendome. The Duke was fifty-three years of age, and much respected.



# HIGH AND LOW TAXES.

—629—

From the Edinburgh Review.

## COMPARATIVE PRODUCTIVENESS OF HIGH AND LOW TAXES.

Case of the Salt Duties, with Proofs and Illustrations. By Sir Thomas Bernard, Bart. London, 1817.

We mean to be very practical in this article. It is not our intention to enter into any investigation as to the comparative effects of high and low duties on profits and wages, but to confine ourselves entirely to a demonstration of the fact, that an increase of taxation is not always followed by an increase of revenue, nor a diminution of taxation by a diminution of revenue. The prevalence of erroneous opinions on this subject has been in the highest degree injurious. In vain has it been shown, that high duties abridge the comforts and enjoyments of the people, and hold out a bounty to perjury, fraud, and smuggling. These truths are universally admitted; but then, we are told that the evil is irremediable—that the wants of the Government will not allow of any further diminution of taxation! The loud and unanimous call of the people for relief from their burdens, has induced Ministers to consent to relinquish one shilling of the seven shillings and sixpence with which every bushel of malt is really loaded;\* but they have declared their inability to relinquish another farthing! And it is on this single ground—the alleged necessity of keeping up the revenue to its present amount—that they take their stand, in justifying the exorbitant taxes on salt, leather, tea, sugar, and other necessary articles. They have not had the boldness to attempt to deny that these taxes are extremely burdensome and oppressive; but they contend, that the maintenance of public credit is superior to every other consideration; and that, as the revenue is, even with all the aid derived from the high duties barely adequate to meet the exigencies of the public service, and to keep up the nominal umbra of a sinking fund, they are reluctantly compelled to oppose every attempt to reduce them! Such is the reasoning of Ministers in Parliament, and such also is the reasoning of their adherents out of doors.

Now, this reasoning is plainly and avowedly bottomed on the assumption, that every reduction of taxation is necessarily followed by a corresponding reduction of revenue! If you reduce, said the Chancellor of Exchequer, the duties on salt from 15s. to 10s. a bushel, we shall have only 1,000,000l. of revenue from salt, instead of 1,500,000l.; but, in the existing circumstances of the country, and after the House has pledged itself to maintain a sinking fund of five millions, it is impossible for me to consent to such a diminution of the public income. It would certainly, added the Right Honourable Gentleman, give much satisfaction to his Majesty's Ministers, if they could, consistently with the real interests of the country, agree to a greater remission of taxes; but after what Parliament has already done on this point (that is, after the deduction of 1s. from the duty of 7s. 6d. a bushel affecting malt), he certainly thought it necessary to withstand any further reduction.† We shall not stop at present to point out the palpable absurdity, of supposing that any bad effects could possibly result from reducing a real sinking fund of five to one of four and a half millions; it is sufficient to observe, that the same convenient plea of the necessity of maintaining this sacred treasure of five millions untouched, was the only reason assigned by Ministers for imposing three millions of new taxes in 1810; and that notwithstanding their imposition, both the principal and interest of the funded and unfunded unredeemed debt, have regularly increased since that period! But admitting the expediency of raising a surplus revenue of five millions, it might have been supposed, without giving Mr. Vansittart and his colleagues credit for any unusual share of sagacity, that it would have occurred to them that it was possible the consumption of a taxed commodity might be increased by a fall of duty or of price. It is certain, however, that they have either entirely overlooked this consideration, or that they are of opinion that it is quite the same thing to the great bulk of society whether prices are low or high! For, if the consumption of taxed commodities be increased by a reduction of duty, it is plain the revenue cannot be proportionably diminished; and it is even probable, it may sustain a positive and considerable increase. If, after a reduction of the duty on salt from 15s. to 10s., three bushels were consumed instead of two, there would be no diminution of revenue; and if two bushels were consumed instead of one, there would be a very great increase—so much so, that Government would actually gain 500,000l. by the reduction. Now, we contend, that this effect will always follow every diminution of high duties laid on commodities in general request. And we are prepared to show, that, far from causing any diminution of revenue, a considerable reduction of these duties would, by causing a much greater increase of consumption, be among the

most effectual means that could be taken to increase it. The demand for such commodities as are, from the great expense of their production, necessarily high priced, must be always comparatively limited, and could not be greatly extended by any reduction of the duties with which they are charged. But a reduction of the duties laid on commodities in extensive demand, and whose natural cost is not very considerable, must be always followed by a very great increase of consumption. For, such a reduction not only enables those who were previously consumers to consume a greater quantity, but it brings them within the reach of new and more numerous classes of consumers. If any of our readers will take the trouble to look into the tables which have been published by Dr. Colquhoun and others of the numbers and incomes of the different classes of the people, they will at once perceive that such a reduction of the duty or price of any commodity previously used by the higher classes only, as would fit it to be used by those in inferior stations, would extend the demand for it in a geometrical proportion. The truth of this observation may be strikingly exemplified by a reference to the case of cotton goods. At the accession of his late Majesty in 1760, the price of cottons, owing to the difficulty of producing them, was extremely high; and the value of the manufactured cottons annually brought to market, did not exceed 300,000l.\* But, thanks to the genius and inventions of Hargreaves, of Arkwright, and of Watt, the price of cottons has been so far sunk as to bring them within the reach of the poorest individual; and yet, such has been the vast increase of demand, that notwithstanding this reduction of price, the value of the cottons annually manufactured in Great Britain, and either disposed of at home, or sent abroad, amounts, according to the very lowest estimate, to the amazing sum of FORTY MILLIONS! It is obvious, however, that if the same reduction of the price of cottons which has been brought about by the improvement of machinery, had been brought about by an equivalent reduction of taxation, precisely the same effects would have followed. The demand would have equally increased and would have far more than compensated for the diminution of the duties.

But it is not necessary, in order to establish the superior productiveness of moderate taxation, to resort to arguments drawn from general principles, or from analogy. The history of taxation, both in this and other countries, furnishes numerous direct, conclusive, and well-authenticated proofs of the same principle. We shall notice a few of them. Previously to 1745, the excise duty of 4s. a pound on tea yielded at an average, about 150,000l. a year; which, had there been no smuggling or adulteration, would have shown that the consumption was equal to about 750,000 lbs. But it was well known that smuggling was then carried to a very great height, and that the real consumption of tea was much greater than the apparent consumption. To put a stop to this clandestine importation, a bill was introduced into Parliament in 1745, in pursuance of the recommendation of a Committee of the House of Commons, and passed into a law, by which the excise duty of 4s. was reduced to 1s. and 25 per cent. *ad valorem*. This measure was signally successful. In 1746, the year immediately subsequent to the reduction, the sales of tea for home consumption amounted to above two millions of pounds weight, and the revenue was increased to 243,309l.† But to set the effects of this wise and salutary measure in a still clearer point of view, we shall subjoin an account of the net produce of the tea duties, from 1745 to 1748, both inclusive.

| In 1745 it amounted to £. | 151,950 |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1744 .. ..                | 147,065 |
| 1745 .. ..                | 145,630 |
| 1746 .. ..                | 243,309 |
| 1747 .. ..                | 257,937 |
| 1748 .. ..                | 303,545 |

But this unanswerable demonstration of the superior productiveness of low duties, was unable to restrain the rapacity of the Treasury. In 1748, the duties were again increased, and fluctuated between that epoch and 1784, from 64 to 119 per cent. *ad valorem*. The effects which followed this inordinate extension of the duties, are equally instructive with those which followed their reduction. The revenue was not increased in any thing like a corresponding proportion; and as the use of tea had now become general, smuggling was carried to an infinitely greater extent than at any former period. In the nine years preceeding 1780, above 118 millions of pounds weight of tea were exported from China to Europe, in ships belonging to the Continent, and about 50 millions of pounds in ship belonging to England. But from the best information attainable, it appears that the real consumption was almost exactly the reverse of the quantities imported; and that, while the consumption of the British dominions amounted to above 13 millions of pounds, the consumption of the Continent did not exceed 5½ millions! If this statement be nearly correct, it follows, that an annual supply of about eight millions of pounds must have been clandestinely imported into this

\* The duty on malt is 60s. 6d. a quarter—viz. 28s. of direct duty, and 10s. a barrel on each of the 3½ barrels of beer, which are extracted from every quarter of malt.

† Debate on Mr. Calcraft's motion for a gradual repeal of the duties on salt, 25th February 1822.

\* Macpherson's Annals of Commerce, vol. 4. p. 132.

† Hamilton's Principles of Taxation, Appendix, No. 19; and Postlethwaite's History of the Revenue, p. 293.

country, in defiance of the utmost vigilance on the part of the revenue officers. But this was not the worst effect of the high duties, for many of the retail merchants, who purchased tea at the East India Company's sales, being in a great measure beat out of the market, were, in order to put themselves in a condition to stand the competition of the smugglers, tempted to adulterate their teas, by mixing them with sloe and ash leaves.\* At length, in 1784, ministers, after having in vain tried every other resource for the suppression of smuggling, resolved to follow the precedent of 1745, and reduced the duty on tea from 119 to 12½ per cent. The measure was as successful as the former. Smuggling, and the practice of adulteration were immediately put an end to. The following official statement shows, that the quantity of tea sold by the East India Company, was about tripled in the course of the two years immediately following the reduction!

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| In 1781, the quantity of tea sold at the East India Company's sales, amounted to | 5,023,419 lbs. |
| 1782 .. .. .   | 6,283,664      |
| 83 .. .. .   | 5,867,883      |
| 84 (Duties reduced) .. .. .  | 10,448,257     |
| 85 .. .. .   | 16,307,433     |
| 86 .. .. .   | 15,093,952     |
| 87 .. .. .   | 16,092,426 †   |

While the quantity of tea sold at the Company's sales, was thus rapidly augmenting, in consequence of the reduction of the duty, the quantity of tea imported into the Continent from China, which had, in the year 1784, amounted 10,027,300 lbs., declined with still greater rapidity, and in 1791, was reduced to only 2,291,500 lbs.‡

The duties on tea, on an average of the five or six years preceding 1784, produced about 700,000*l.* a year. And at the same time that Parliament reduced them to 12½ per cent, they laid an additional duty on windows, estimated to produce 600,000*l.* as a *commutation* tax, to compensate the deficiency which it was supposed would take place to that extent, in the revenue formerly derived from tea. But instead of the duties falling off in the proportion of 119 to 12½, or from 700,000*l.* to 73,000*l.*, owing to the increased consumption, they only fell off in the proportion of about two to one, or from 700,000*l.* to 340,000*l.*! The Commutation act has been always regarded, and with justice, as one of the most successful financial measures adopted in the course of Mr. Pitt's administration. The plan was generally understood, at the time, to have been suggested by Mr. Richardson, Accountant-General of the East India Company. But the popularity of the measure was so great as to induce several other individuals to claim this honour, and even to occasion some hot disputes on the subject in the House of Commons. In point of fact, however, the merit of having first suggested the plan, did not really belong either to Mr. Richardson, or to any of those who then claimed it; and such of our readers as will take the trouble to look into a pamphlet of Sir Matthew Decker's (Serious Considerations on the present High Duties), published in 1743, will find that the measure adopted in 1784, had been strenuously recommended forty years before.

But the principle of the Commutation act, and the striking advantage that had resulted from the reduction of the duty, were soon lost sight of. In 1795, the duty was increased to 25 per cent.; and after successive augmentations in 1797, 1798, 1800, and 1803, it was raised, in 1806, to 96 per cent. *ad valorem*, at which it continued till 1819, when it was raised to 100 per cent. Now, although it cannot be disputed that the duty on tea yields, at present, a vastly greater revenue than was derived from it in 1795, there are the strongest possible reasons for believing that the revenue would have been considerably greater, had the duty not been carried so high. The quantity of tea sold by the East India Company in 1795 and 1796, amounted to very nearly 20 millions of pounds a year; and in 1799, to very nearly 25 millions of pounds, (24,853,808.) Since then, there has been no increase! For according to the account given in the Lord's Report on the East India Trade (p. 334.), the average quantity of tea sold at the Company's sales in 1818, 1819, and 1820, is rather under 25 millions of pounds a year. But the population of Great Britain; which is ascertained by the late census to amount to 14,379,990, amounted to only 10,817,000 in 1800; and had there been no diminution of the individual consumption of the Company's tea, in the interval between these enumerations, their sales ought plainly to have been increased in the proportion of 10,817 to 14,379, or from 25 to 33 millions of pounds. Nor is this all. The sales made by the East India Company supply the market of Ireland as well as Britain; and, if we take into account the extraordinary increase of population in that part of the empire, the diminution of consumption will appear still more striking. But, notwithstanding, the Company's sales have thus continued stationary since 1793, it, as we believe, pretty generally admitted, that the individual consumption

of tea, or rather of the compound sold under its name, has not been considerably diminished in the towns, while it has increased greatly in the country since that epoch. It is plain, however, that this increased supply can have been obtained only by clandestine importation, or adulteration; and as there was no opportunity of smuggling during the latter part of the war, and as the powerful force that has been employed in the preventive service since the return of peace, must have rendered it extremely difficult to import any considerable quantity of foreign tea, we should be disposed to conclude, that the vacuum caused by the high duties, has been chiefly supplied by adulteration,—and such, we find, is really the case. There is, indeed every reason to think that the practice of adulterating by the intermixture of ash and aloë leaves, and by drying tea that has been already infused, and mixing it with fresh tea, is carried to a greater extent at this moment, than in 1784. In proof of this, we may mention, that in London in 1818, upwards of twenty grocers were convicted of having spurious tea in their possession. And it is worthy of remark, that in the case of the King v. Owen, the counsel for the defendant (Mr. Lawes) declared, that the practice was so general, that his client was not aware of the existence of any law, by which it was forbidden! Since then, several additional convictions have taken place; but it is not in the nature of things that the evil can be materially diminished by such means. If ministers be really desirous of putting a stop to the practice of adulterating, they must follow Mr. Pitt's example, and take 50 or 60 per cent. from the present duties. The experience of the effects of the reductions in 1745 and 1784, enable us confidently to pronounce, that such a reduction would not be followed by any corresponding diminution of revenue, —while, besides putting an instant stop to smuggling and adulteration, it would be a considerable boon to the lower classes, to whom tea is now become an article of prime necessity, and would powerfully contribute to extend our commerce with China.

We have been thus particular in noticing the variations in the tea duties, because the Company's sales, afford the means of ascertaining the precise effect of their increase and diminution on consumption. The results are both curious and instructive; and would of themselves be sufficient to establish the truth of Dr. Swift's observation that, in the arithmetic of the Customs, two and two do not always make four, but sometimes only one!

The shortsightedness of ministers, and the narrow and contracted policy on which they have almost always acted, put it out of our power to refer to many such conclusive instances as the reduction of the tea duties in 1745 and 1784, to prove the superior productiveness of diminished taxation; there are, however, one or two others which deserve to be pointed out. In 1742, the high prohibitory duties upon spirituous liquors, and upon licenses for retailing the same, were abolished, and such moderate duties imposed, to commence after Lady Day 1743, as were expected to increase the revenue by increasing the legal consumption of spirits. This measure was vehemently opposed by the Bishops; but their opposition was ineffectual; and the increase of the duties, and diminution of smuggling which followed, proved that the measure was alike advantageous to the revenue and to the morals of the people. In 1767, Mr. Pitt reduced the duty on wine and spirits 50 per cent., and the revenue was, notwithstanding, considerably augmented! Perhaps, however, the progress of the duties on coffee illustrates this principle in a still more striking manner. In 1805, they were raised a third, and that year their produce fell off an eighth instead of increasing a third; in 1806 they had increased only a sixteenth, so that the consumption had diminished above a fourth. But it was at length found that the tax had been overdone, and and it was lowered from 2*s.* to 7*d.* the cwt. Mark the immediate effects of this step. The average annual produce the high duty for the three years previous to 1808, when it was lowered, was 109,000*l.*; and the average annual produce of the reduced duty for the next three years was 195,000*l.*!—a proof that the consumption had been increased in a quadruple proportion.†

The history of other countries abounds with equally conclusive examples of the superior productiveness of moderate duties. In 1775, M. Turgot deducted a half from the customs and other duties chargeable on the fish sold in the Paris market; but notwithstanding this reduction, the amount of the duties collected was not diminished. The demand for fish must, therefore, have been doubled, in consequence of the inhabitants being enabled to supply themselves, at a comparatively cheap rate, with a nutritious and agreeable food.‡

Ustariz gives a variety of instructive details respecting the disastrous effects which the levying of certain taxes have had on the industry of the Spaniards, and of the advantage which has resulted from the repeal and modification of others. We shall give a single example. Valen-

\* History of our Debts and Taxes, Part iv. p. 110.

† Mr. Brougham's Speech on the State of the Nation in 1817, p. 57.

‡ Say, Traité D'Economie Politique, tome ii. p. 339. Lord Kames, in his Sketches of the History of Man, states that these duties amounted to 49 per cent. *ad valorem*. vol. ii. p. 406. Edit. 1789.

\* Macpherson's Commerce with India, p. 238. Milbarn's Oriental Commerce, vol. 2, p. 540.

† Macpherson's Commerce with India, p. 416.

‡ Macpherson's Commerce with India, p. 210.



e's, he tells us, though very barren of grain and flocks, and not equal in extent to two-thirds of Arragon, paid a much larger revenue to the Royal Treasury. Ustáriz says, that this was owing to the comparatively flourishing state of commerce and manufactures in Valencia; and he then adds—'This increase and improvement in manufactures and commerce is ascribed to the equitable and kind treatment the weavers receive in that province, and to his Majesty's goodness in reducing the excessive taxes which were charged upon *flesh meat and other provisions*; and his taking off wholly that which was laid on bread in ancient times; as also, the imposts known by the name of *ancient duties and generalities*. These duties were partly replaced by others, but in such a manner that they were rendered much lighter, the people in general eased, and the royal revenue improved.'

But the superior productiveness of low duties on articles in general request, may be equally shown from the consequences of the attempts to increase them beyond their proper limits. The history of the sugar duties is, in this respect, extremely important. In the three years from 1803 to 1806, the former duties were increased about 50 per cent. Now, the average produce of the old duties, for the three years before that rise, was 2,778,000*l.* The produce of 1804, after they had been raised 20 per cent. was not 3,333,000*l.*, as it ought to have been, had the consumption remained the same, but only 2,537,000*l.*, being 241,000*l.* less than the produce of the low duty; and the average produce of 1806 and 1807, after the whole 50 per cent. was added, was only 3,133,000*l.*, instead of 4,167,000*l.*, which it should have been had there been no falling off since 1804. Thus, both consumption and revenue declined, in consequence of the increase of duty in 1804; and the consumption has declined in consequence of the succeeding augmentations, while the revenue has gained very little. The duties on glass have been doubled since 1800, but the produce of the duty has not sensibly increased! The duties on leather, after being stationary for nearly a century, were doubled in 1813. In 1812, the low duties produced 304,000*l.*; but instead of being doubled, or of producing 788,000*l.*, when the tax was doubled, the annual revenue has scarcely ever since exceeded half a million, and has frequently fallen short of that sum.

The duties on foreign wines have been tripled since 1792. The last increase took place in 1815, when 30*l.* per ton was added to the former duty on French, and 20*l.* to that on Portuguese wine. Now, observe what has been the effect of this increase of duty. In the Second Report of the Lords' Committee on the Silk and Wine Trade (ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 28th June 1821), a series of accounts are given, showing the quantity of wine imported into Great Britain, and re-exported, for a considerable number of years past, and the amount of the duties. From these accounts, we have drawn up the following Table of the number of tons of wine imported into Britain from 1809, to 1820, both inclusive; the number of tons re-exported during the same period; and the quantity remaining for home consumption.

|          | Tons im-<br>ported. | Ditto, re-<br>exported. | Remains<br>for home<br>consumption. | Average ANNUAL<br>consumption during<br>the five years pre-<br>vious to 1815. |
|----------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1809.... | 49,762              | 14,501                  | 35,261                              | Tons.<br>28,489   |
| 10....   | 47,058              | 12,739                  | 34,329                              |   |
| 11....   | 20,787              | 5,938                   | 14,854                              |   |
| 12....   | 35,082              | 6,716                   | 28,366                              |   |
| 13....   | —                   | —                       | —                                   | Ditto, for the five years<br>subsequent to 1815.<br>Tons.<br>21,027           |
| 14....   | 31,463              | 11,838                  | 29,627                              |   |
| 15....   | 30,874              | 5,855                   | 25,019                              |   |
| 16....   | 18,218              | 5,163                   | 13,055                              |   |
| 17....   | 27,073              | 4,457                   | 22,616                              | Tons.<br>21,027   |
| 18....   | 35,703              | 4,021                   | 31,742                              |   |
| 19....   | 23,408              | 3,843                   | 19,565                              |   |
| 20....   | 22,782              | 4,625                   | 18,157                              |   |

Average annual diminution of the consumption of wine, for the five years subsequent to 1815, as compared with the five preceding years, ..... Tons.  
7,462

Thus, it appears that the increase of the duties on wine in 1815 has occasioned a diminution in the consumption of 7,462 tons a year, or of ONE-FOURTH part of the total quantity annually consumed, on an average of the five years preceding the increase. Let us next see what augmentation of revenue has taken place to balance this diminution of the comforts of the people, and the loss of the market for the products which were previously exchanged for the wine.

From a Table in the same Report (p. 78), it appears that the produce of the duties of excise on the wines consumed in England from 1810 to 1820, both inclusive, has been as follows.

\* Theory and Practice of Commerce, vol. ii. p. 310. Eng. Trans.

† Mr. Brougham's Speech on the State of the Nation in 1817, p. 54.

‡ The Records for the year 1813 were destroyed by fire.

|           |            | Average ANNUAL du-<br>ty for the five years pre-<br>vious to 1815. |
|-----------|------------|--|
| 1810..... | £1,406,417 | £1,162,332   |
| 11.....   | 1,215,507  |  |
| 12.....   | 1,065,130  |  |
| 13.....   | 1,061,604  |  |
| 14.....   | 1,065,223  | Ditto, for the five years<br>subsequent to 1815.<br>£1,020,540     |
| 15.....   | 1,277,491  |  |
| 16.....   | 948,967    |  |
| 17.....   | 928,473    |  |
| 18.....   | 1,195,427  | £1,020,540   |
| 19.....   | 1,085,500  |  |
| 20.....   | 949,328    |  |

The average drawback, as given in the same Table, for the five years previous to 1815, is 63,674*l.*; and for the five years subsequent to 1815, 48,676*l.*; and deducting these sums from the above, we have 1,098,703*l.* for the amount of the average annual excise duty on wine for the five years preceding 1815; and 971,867*l.* for the average annual amount of that duty for the five years after it had been increased about 20 per cent. showing that the revenue, instead of being augmented, has sustained a diminution of 126,841*l.* a year by this increase of duty!

The effect of the increase on the Custom duty has been equally striking. The accounts laid before Parliament do not go farther back than 1814; but in that year the low Custom duties amounted to 1,061,467*l.* In 1816, the high duties only amounted to 780,238*l.*; and except in 1818, when they amounted to 1,056,594*l.*, they have never since reached one million!

It is unnecessary to make any commentary on this decisive statement. The facts we have brought forward prove, beyond all question, that the revenue, the comforts of the people, and the commerce of the country, have all been diminished by this inordinate extension of the duties; and entitle us to conclude, that they would be all increased by their diminution.

But every part of our financial system affords equally conclusive proofs of the pernicious effects of over-taxation. We shall bestow a few words to illustrate its operation in the case of the salt duties. These duties were originally imposed as a temporary tax in the reign of William III.; but they were soon found to be too lucrative a source of revenue to be given up, and were made perpetual in the early part of the reign of George II. At the accession of his late Majesty, they amounted to 5*s.* a bushel, and continued at that rate until 1798, when they were raised to 10*s.* In 1801, a Committee of the House of Commons was appointed to inquire into the effects of these duties. The present Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Vansittart, was chairman of this Committee, and drew up their Report, in which the total repeal of the duties is strongly recommended, on the ground of their being 'highly detrimental to the public interests, in a degree far exceeding the payment of the tax itself.' Instead, however, of paying any attention to the recommendation of the Committee, Mr. Pitt added, in 1805, an additional half, or 5*s.* a bushel, to the previous duty of 10*s.*, making the whole duty 15*s.* a bushel.

We doubt whether, among all the countless multitude of taxes with which the people of Britain are oppressed, it is possible to name another so objectionable as this. Salt is one of the prime necessities of life; and, owing to the circumstance of its being indispensable to the curing of meat, butter, cheese, &c. it is consumed in considerably greater quantities by the poor than by the wealthy classes. And yet this necessary is loaded with a duty which amounts, at the very least, to THIRTY or THIRTY-FIVE times its natural price! Were it not for the duty of 15*s.*, salt might be purchased for four-pence, or, at most, six-pence a bushel. With the single exception of Poland, England has the richest salt mines in Europe; and yet the price of salt is higher there than in any other part of the world. The rapacity of the Treasury has rendered the bounty of Providence productive only of misery and crime. Notwithstanding the vigilance of the excise-officers, and notwithstanding the severity of the revenue laws, and their endless sequence of bonds, penalties, forfeitures, and so forth, there can be no doubt of the fact, that only about one third of the salt consumed in England pays duty. The price of the whole is factiously enhanced, but the contributions of the public are divided between the Crown and the smuggler; and while an army of excise-officers collects the high duty on about 10,000 tons, the smuggler receives a lower, though still a very high duty, on about 10,000 tons.\* It is plain, therefore, that exclusive of the sum (1,500,000*l.*) which the salt duties bring into the coffers of the Treasury, they cannot take less than an additional million and a half from the industrious classes, for the benefit of mere thieves and plunderers.

The present exorbitant duties on salt do not merely degrade the condition of the labourer, and stimulate him to embark in the predatory and lawless career of the smuggler—a career which almost always conducts to the gallows—but they are exceedingly injurious to some of the principle branches of the national industry. In spite of the immense sums that have been lavished on the fisheries in bounties, premiums,

\* Case of the Salt Duties, by Sir Thomas Bernard, p. 29.

drawbacks, &c. &c. they never have attained to any considerable degree of prosperity; and it may safely be affirmed, that they never will attain to any, so long as the present salt laws are supported. There are so many expensive, teasing, and vexatious Customhouse regulations to go through, and so much risk, delay, and inconvenience, must be encountered in getting 'fishery salt,' or salt duty free, that many fishers rather prefer using salt for which they pay ordinary duties. Mr. Carter one of the principle fish-curers in London, concludes a very distant account of the injurious effects resulting to the fisheries from the salt duties, by stating, 'that if under the present difficulties and discouragements, our fisheries have continued to exist at all, their increase would be such as could hardly be estimated, if they were emancipated by the abolition of the salt duties.' And Mr. Macdonald, the well informed author of the Survey of the Hebrides, states, that 'owing to the want of salt, many thousand barrels of the finest herrings in the world are lost every week during the fishing season. I have seen, he continues, whole cargoes thrown into the sea in a putrid state, and others used as a manure for potatoe ground, in consequence of the inability of the fishermen to find surety or bail for the requisite supply of salt, conformably to the salt law regulations.' Such are the effects of that odious impost with which ministers, trusting to a majority of four, have determined to continue to oppress the country!

In France, previously to the Revolution, the average annual consumption of salt, in the provinces subjected to the *grande gabelle*, or high duty on salt, was estimated by M. Necker, who had the best means of coming to a correct conclusion, at 9 l. 6 lb. to each individual; and at 18 lbs. in the *pays redimés*, or provinces that had purchased an exemption from the greater part of this hateful tax.\* It is evident, from this well authenticated statement, that a very great reduction might have been made from the duty paid on the salt consumed in the heavily taxed provinces, without occasioning any diminution of revenue, while, besides directly increasing the comforts of the people, it would have relieved Government from the necessity of surrounding particular provinces with cordons of troops, and would have put an instant stop to that smuggling of salt, which occasioned the sending of between 3000 and 4000 persons every year either to prison or to the galleys.†

But our present salt laws, though not so partial, are really more oppressive than those of France. They subject all England to a *grande gabelle*! Only about 50,000 tons of salt pay duty; and this distributed among twelve millions of people, the population of England and Wales, gives 9½ lbs. for the consumption of each individual—almost the precise quantity consumed in the French provinces which paid the high duty! But the natural price, or the expense of producing salt, is considerably less in England than in France; and the English also use a much greater quantity of salted provisions than the French. Perhaps, therefore, we shall be within the mark, if we suppose, that were the duties repealed altogether, or reduced to 3s. or 4s. a bushel, the average consumption of England would not be less than from 20 to 24 lbs. each individual; which, at the above rates, would yield very little less than the present revenue.

The feeling displayed by the House, when the question of the abolition of the salt duties was lately before them, and the support given to the motion by some of the staunchest adherents of ministers, lead us to believe that it will meet with better success when it is next brought forward. But if Mr. Vanittart is determined not to part with a tax which he himself formerly denounced as being 'highly detrimental to the public interests,' when it was only two-thirds of its present amount, let him reduce the duty to 3s. or 4s. a bushel, or to such a sum as will render smuggling unprofitable. If this is done, the revenue will not be diminished, and the tax will then conform to the maxim laid down by Dr. Smith; and will not continue, as at present, to take twice or thrice the sum from the pockets of the people that it puts into the coffers of the Treasury.

But it is to Ireland that we must refer, if we wish to get a proper and emphatic view of the effect of oppressive taxation in reducing revenue. Since 1807, taxes have been imposed in that country, which our finance ministers estimated would produce THREE AND A HALF MILLIONS. How these anticipations have been realized, the following statements, on the accuracy of which our readers may place the fullest reliance, will show.

REVENUE OF IRELAND, paid into the Exchequer, in British Currency, excluding the trifling articles of Quit-rents and Fees, in

|              | 1807.     | 1817.     | 1818.     | 1819.     | 1820.     | 1821.     |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Customs,     | 1,076,961 | 1,483,805 | 1,635,470 | 1,514,259 | 1,202,380 | 1,437,653 |
| Excise,      |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Assessed     | 1,765,466 | 1,687,941 | 1,833,473 | 1,705,323 | 1,564,651 | 1,632,640 |
| Taxes,       |           | 442,708   | 342,615   | 280,150   | 261,670   | 308,223   |
| Stamps,      | 564,424   | 520,265   | 500,039   | 482,469   | 407,403   | 400,827   |
| Post-Office, | 71,390    | 87,230    | 46,153    | 53,538    | 59,077    | 65,538    |
| Total        | 4,378,241 | 4,191,950 | 4,366,750 | 4,035,714 | 3,498,051 | 3,844,880 |

\* Administration des Finances, tom. II. p. 12.

† Arthur Young's Travels in France vol. i. p. 598.

Now the Taxes imposed on Ireland since 1807 were estimated to produce as follows—

| Taxes imposed in 1808 | £.         |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 1808                  | 363,000    |
| 1809                  | 600,000    |
| 1810                  | no budget. |
| 1811                  | 335,000    |
| 1812                  | 229,000    |
| 1813                  | 595,000    |
| 1814                  | 521,000    |
| 1815                  | 730,000    |

£3,376,000

From this sum we have to deduct taxes estimated to produce 400,000*l.*, remitted at the close of the war. Had, therefore, the data on which our Finance Ministers built their conclusions been ordinarily well-founded, or, which is the same thing, had the country been able to support this additional burden, the revenue of Ireland, in 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820, and 1821, ought to have been about three millions greater than its revenue in 1807; but the official statement we have laid before our readers, shows, that, in point of fact, the additional taxes, instead of producing three millions, have not produced a single shilling! on the contrary, the revenue of Ireland amounted, in 1807, before their imposition to 4,378,241*l.*; while in 1821, it only amounted to 3,844,880*l.*; being a decrease of 533,352*l.*, instead of a rise of three millions!

We have here a signal and remarkable illustration of the folly of endeavouring to raise an additional revenue from an impoverished and exhausted country by mere dint of taxation. Had Ministers made any vigorous effort to stimulate the dormant energies of the people, to give them a taste for the comforts and luxuries of civilized life, or to remove the most obvious of those causes of irritation and idleness which have so long distracted and depressed one of the finest countries in the world, the result would have been very different. But, instead of reducing taxation, they contented themselves with adding to burdens which were already too heavy to be borne. The necessary consequence followed; consumption was diminished, the revenue declined, and all classes of the people have been sunk deeper in the abyss of poverty and misery.

We subjoin a few statements, showing the effects of the increased duties in diminishing the consumption of particular articles and the revenue derived from them. They are copied from the books of the Irish Custom-house and Excise-office, and have been repeatedly referred to in the House of Commons. No doubt, therefore, can be entertained of their perfect accuracy and they are certainly among the most curious and instructive documents that have ever been made public.

It is necessary to observe, that the duties on spirits imported into Ireland were paid in Irish currency until the year 1804, and since in British currency. In the annexed statements, the rates of duty are those laid on importations in British vessels; but the amount of duty is for the produce imported in vessels of all descriptions.

#### RUM.

| Years, or average of certain years. | No. of Gallons which paid duty. | Rate of duty per Gallon. | Amount, or average amount of duty received per annum. |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
|                                     |                                 | s. d.                    | £   |
| 1800—1801—1802                      | 1,041,460                       | 5 6½                     | 297,744   |
| 1804—5—6—7—8                        | 300,293                         | 7 5                      | From July 1803, 100,529                               |
| 1809                                | 1,307,007                       | 8 1                      | From June 1803, 593,740                               |
| 1813                                | 544,984                         | 10 1½                    | From May 1803, 272,609                                |
| 1816-17-18-19-20.                   | 28,321                          | 10 0                     | From July 1814, 16,507                                |

#### BRANDY.

|                  |         |      |                        |
|------------------|---------|------|------------------------|
| 1800—1801—1802   | 208,064 | 7 3½ | ..... 77,714           |
| 1809....10....11 | 22,671  | 9 10 | From June 1802, 13,233 |
| 1818....19....20 | 7,662   | 13 7 | From July 1814, 5,675  |

#### GENEVA.

|                   |        |      |                       |
|-------------------|--------|------|-----------------------|
| 1800—1801—2—3     | 82,828 | 7 3½ | ..... 31,923          |
| 1809....10....11  | 10,303 | 9 11 | From June 1808, 9,609 |
| 1817-18-19-20.... | 3,723  | 13 7 | From July 1814, 2,837 |

#### PORTUGUESE WINE.

|                    | Tons. | Rate per Ton. | Amount of duty.         |
|--------------------|-------|---------------|-------------------------|
|                    |       | £ s.          | £                       |
| 1800—1801—1802     | 5,705 | 38 14         | ..... 221,236           |
| In 1803 alone,.... | 6,838 | 38 14         | ..... 268,401           |
| 1804               | 4,949 | 58 0          | From July 1804, 290,143 |
| 1807—8—9           | 3,780 | 58 0          | ..... 219,240           |
| 1811—12—13         | 1,999 | 70 12         | From June 1810, 152,726 |
| 1817—1818—1819     | 1,209 | 90 16         | From July 1814, 117,952 |

#### FRENCH WINE.

|                       | Tons. | £ s.          |                        | £      |
|-----------------------|-------|---------------|------------------------|--------|
| 1801, 1802, 1803,...  | 642   | 59 12 per ton | .....                  | 38,749 |
| 1805, 6, 7, 8, 9,...  | 362   | 87 0          | From July 1804, 33,372 |        |
| 1811, 12, 13,.....    | 262   | 105 18        | From June 1810, 31,306 |        |
| 1816, 17, 18, 19, 20, | 155   | 135 12        | From July 1814, 22,718 |        |
| 1820, alone,.....     | 69    | 135 12        | .....                  | 10,190 |



# HIGH AND LOW TAXES.

— 633 —

## MADEIRA WINE.

|                          | Tons. | £  | s. d. |                 | £     |
|--------------------------|-------|----|-------|-----------------|-------|
| 1800, 1801, 1802,...     | 95    | 38 | 14 0  | per ton         | 3,803 |
| 1807—8—9...              | 144   | 59 | 12    | From July 1801, | 9,323 |
| 1811—12—13...            | 105   | 71 | 13 2  | From June 1810, | 8,328 |
| 1816, 17, 18, 19, 20, .. | 63    | 91 | 0 0   | From July 1814, | 6,100 |

## SPANISH WINE.

|                        | Tons. | £  | s. |                 | £       |
|------------------------|-------|----|----|-----------------|---------|
| 1800, 1801, 1802, .... | 1,166 | 38 | 14 | per ton         | 45,542  |
| 1803, .....            | 1,392 | 40 | 16 | From July 1802, | 58,628  |
| 1804, .....            | 1,903 | 48 | 0  | From July 1804, | 91,833  |
| 1807, — 8 — 9, .....   | 1,598 | 58 | 0  | From Oct. 1805, | 100,459 |
| 1811, .....            | 1,325 | 70 | 12 | From June 1810, | 102,845 |
| 1817, .....            | 724   | 90 | 6  | From July 1814, | 70,624  |

## MUSCOVADO SUGAR.

| British Plantation.     |               | Foreign Plantation. |       | £       |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------|---------|
| cwt.                    | per cwt.      | per cwt.            | s. d. |         |
| 1800, ...               | 838,563 19 7½ | 32 12 3ds           |       | 284,260 |
| 1803, ...               | 302,594 21 7  | May 1801, 34 12 3ds |       | 506,275 |
| 1804, ...               | 289,220 26 6  | July 1804, 49 3     |       | 379,507 |
| 1811, 12, 13, ...       | 560,323 30 0  | 63 0                |       | 544,507 |
| 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, ... | 266,413 30 0  | 63 0                |       | 401,035 |

## TOBACCO.—(CUSTOMS.)

| lbs.                  | Customs.  | Duty per lb.                     | £       |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1800, 1801, 1802, ... | 6,484,857 | about 7½d.                       | 208,655 |
| 1807, 8, 9, ...       | 5,625,375 | about 6d.                        | 156,101 |
| 1811, 12, 13, ...     | 6,038,181 | from 7d. 13 20ths to 9d. 3 10ths | 206,982 |
| 1819, 19, 20, ...     | 3,414,464 | 1s.                              | 183,252 |

## TOBACCO.—(EXCISE.)

| Excise duty,       | 5d. per lb.    | £       |
|--------------------|----------------|---------|
| 1800, 1, 2, 3, ... |                | 130,500 |
| 1808, 9, 10, ...   | ditto, 1½d.    | 300,000 |
| 1816, 17, 18, ...  | ditto, 2s. 2d. | 536,000 |
| 1820, 1821, ...    | ditto, 3s.     | 493,000 |

## HOME MADE SPIRITS.

|                              |                                      |           |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1807, ...                    | Excise duty, 4s. per gallon produce, | £1236,000 |
| Average of 1808, 19, 20, ... | ditto, 5s. 6d. per ditto,            | 1,170,000 |

## MALT.

|                      |                                     |          |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1707, 8-9-10-11, ... | Duty 10s a bushel, average produce, | £362,000 |
| 1819-1820, ...       | ditto, 14s average produce,         | 310,000  |

## TEA.

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1817, 8-9, ...          | Duty, { 71,14 pr. cent on higher teas } average do. £ 527,603 |
| 1810, 11-12, ditto, ... | { 84,14 on low ditto, }                                       |
| 1816, 17-18, ditto, ... | 93 per cent. on all, ... 544,888                              |
| 1819-1820, ditto, ...   | 96 per cent. ... 486,918                                      |
|                         | 100 per cent. ... 451,300                                     |

We have here brought forward returns from the Custom house books of Ireland, of nine separate articles, and from the Excise books of four separate articles, on which the duties, as they stood in the year 1807, have all been greatly increased since that period. The last augmentation of duties took place in 1818, after Bonaparte had been sent to St. Helena, and when Legitimacy was everywhere triumphant! The results are so striking, and afford so admirable an illustration of Mr. Vansittart's sagacity, and capacity for managing our financial concerns, that we shall bring them together in one point of view.

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| The quantity of rum annually imported into Ireland has fallen off from about ... | 1,000,000 gals. to about 28,000 gals. |
| Brandy, from about ...   | 208,000 to 8,000                      |
| Geneva, from about ...   | 83,000 to less than 4,000             |
| Portuguese wines, from about ...   | 5,700 tons to 1,400 tons.             |
| French wines, from ...   | 610 to 69                             |
| Madeira, from ...  | 95 to 63                              |
| Spanish, from ...  | 1,100 to 720                          |
| Raw Sugar has declined from ...  | 338,000 cwt. to 260,000 cwt.          |
| Tobacco, from ...  | 6,484,000 lbs. to 2,414,000 lbs.      |

The decrease in the amount of the duties, has kept pace with the decrease in the quantities consumed.

|                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| The duty on rum has fallen from ... | £2,297,700 to £16,500 |
| Brandy, from ...                    | 77,000 to 5,600       |
| Geneva, from ...                    | 31,000 to 2,800       |
| Wine—Portuguese, from ...           | 268,000 to 118,000    |
| French, from ...                    | 38,000 to 20,000      |
| Madeira, from ...                   | 9,300 to 6,000        |
| Spanish, from ...                   | 100,000 to 70,000     |
| Sugar has risen from ...            | 379,000 to 404,000    |

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Tobacco (Custom duty), has fallen from ... | 208,600 to 184,000     |
| Tobacco (Excise duty), has fallen from ... | 536,000 to 493,000     |
| Home made spirits, from ...                | 1,236,000 to 1,170,000 |
| Malt from ...                              | 362,000 to 310,000     |
| Tea from ...                               | 527,000 to 451,000     |

Or from a revenue of £4,069,600 to £3,250,900 — being a loss of £818,700 a year, by the increase of duties on the above mentioned articles!

It is surely impossible that Ministers can be permitted to continue this *felo de se* system. Is it not absolutely monstrous to attempt to deprive a whole people, by means of exorbitant duties, of many of the most indispensable of the necessities, and of almost all the comforts of life, on the stale and stupid pretence of keeping up the revenue, when it is as clear as the sun at noonday, that the revenue would be greatly increased by their reduction! It was justly observed by Mr. Spring Rice, in one of the debates in the present session, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was the most efficient ally of Captain Rock! Indeed, there can be no question, that the extraordinary privations which the late unparalleled increase of taxation has occasioned in Ireland, have been one of the main causes of the *bellum servile* now raging in that unfortunate country. And, for what has Mr. Vansittart allied himself to Captain Rock? For what have the Irish people been deprived of so many comforts and necessities? Had the revenue been increased, it would have been some compensation, though a paltry and wretched one, for these privations. But the scourge of taxation has had no such effect—it has driven the people to despair, and urged them to commit the most unheard of atrocities; but it has not been able to squeeze a single additional shilling out of their empty pockets!

It is truly stated by the Reverend Mr. Chichester, in his excellent pamphlet on the Irish Distillery Laws, that 'the calamities of civilized warfare are in general inferior to those produced by the prevalence of smuggling in Ireland.' But the excess of taxation in this country seems to be in a fair way of producing the same disastrous effects that have resulted from it among our neighbours. It has already deprived the people of many comforts, and caused a considerable reduction of the revenue, and it has given a proportionable degree of encouragement to the smuggler. For the last twelve months, scarcely a week has elapsed in which a conflict has not taken place between parties of smugglers and the soldiers and sailors employed in the preventive service. Some of these conflicts have been very serious. It was stated in the Kentish papers of November last, that above 400 country people, assisting in the unloading of a smuggling lugger, were attacked by a party of military, who, after a brisk engagement, in which one of their party and eleven of the smugglers are stated to have been killed, were obliged to retire to the barracks! Rencontres of the same disgraceful description are occasionally taking place all along the coast; and the baneful practice of illicit distillation, the smuggling of salt, and the adulteration of tea, are now, as we have already shown, carried to an unprecedented extent. But, however much we may deplore the prevalence of this illegal and ruinous traffic, it is abundantly certain that Ministers will be disappointed in their attempts to put in down by the infliction of heavy punishments on those who are tempted to engage in it. High duties have made smuggling popular in other countries, and, if maintained, they will also make it popular in England. We have no desire to extenuate the guilt of those who endeavour to defraud the revenue, and to injure the fair trader; but it is idle to expect that the bulk of society will ever be brought to consider that those who furnish them with cheap tea, gin brandy, &c. are guilty of any very heinous offence! Every one sees that it is those who dig the pitfall, and not those who have the misfortune to stumble into it, who are really responsible for all the mischief that may ensue. 'There, are,' says Montesquieu, 'instances where a tax is seventeen times the worth of the article taxed. (Our salt tax is not seventeen, but thirty times the worth of the salt). A tax so excessive must occasion frauds, which cannot be corrected by mere confiscations. Government is then driven to have recourse to extravagant pains and penalties, such as should only be inflicted on the greatest crimes. All proportion of punishment is done away; and men who can hardly be considered as culpable, are punished as atrocious criminals.'\* To create, by means of high duties, an overwhelming temptation to indulge in crimes, and then to punish men for indulging in it, is a proceeding wholly and completely subversive of every principle of justice. It revolts the natural feelings of the people, and teaches them to feel an interest in the worst characters—for such smugglers generally are—to espouse their cause, and to avenge their wrongs. A punishment which is not proportioned to the offence, and which does not carry the sanction of society along with it, can never be productive of any good effect. The true way to put down smuggling, is to render it unprofitable—to diminish the temptation to engage in it; and this is to be done, not by surrounding the coasts with cordons of troops, by the

\* Esprit des Loix, liv. 13. cap. 8.

multiplication of oaths and bonds, and making the country the theatre of ferocious and bloody contests in the field, or of perjury and chicanery in the courts of law, but simply and exclusively by reducing the duties on the smuggled commodities! It is this, and this only, that will put an end to smuggling. Whenever the profits of the fair trader become nearly equal to those of the smuggler, the latter will be forced to abandon his hazardous profession. But so long as the high duties are kept up—that is, so long as a high bounty is held out to encourage the adventurous, the needy, and the profligate to continue their career, an army of excise-officers, backed by all the severity of the Revenue laws, will be insufficient to hinder them.

#### Mr. Owen's Plan.

On Saturday (June 1) a General Meeting of the British and Foreign Philanthropic Society, for the permanent relief of the Labouring Classes, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern. The object of the Meeting was to receive the Report of a Committee appointed in May last, and to consider certain Resolutions founded upon the Report.

The attendance was respectable rather than full; and a decided majority was composed of ladies. The chair was taken by Lord Torrington, supported by the Earl of Blessington, Sir W. de Crespigny, Sir T. Leithbridge, Mr. W. Williams, M. P., Mr. Maxwell, M. P., Dr. Pincard, Mr. Owen of New Lanark, and several other Gentlemen.

The Report was read by the Earl of Blessington. It was of considerable length; and, after enlarging upon a few self-evident principles in political economy, proceeded to give a qualified approbation of Mr. Owen's plan. It stated that his establishment at New Lanark had succeeded, and it proposed the erection of another at a place called Motherwell, near New Lanark.

Mr. Maxwell, Sir. W. de Crespigny, Sir Thomas Leithbridge and other Gentlemen, spoke at great length in praise of Mr. Owen's exertions, and in defence of his plan, against the ridicule with which it had been assailed. They expressed their conviction that the adoption of it would be practicable. As to its beneficial effects the speakers were of course not unanimous in their opinions. Some thought it would materially diminish the evils of pauperism; but others declared their belief that it would altogether remove vice and misery and bring universal virtue and happiness in their place.

In the course of the speeches, Resolutions were proposed and agreed to, for raising a fund by subscription to defray the expenses attending the proposed new establishment. It was intimated that the subscriptions would be considered as loans and would be refunded with interest out of the profits to be realized by the new establishment.

Mr. Owen addressed the assembly in a very long speech.—Circumstances, over which he had no controul, shewed him that much might be done to ameliorate the condition of the poor, and he merely followed the line of his duty. Being early acquainted with the new method of manufacture, he soon saw that this mighty machine, which at first produced much wealth and power, would recoil upon us and produce of unheard of privations. We were now arrived at a pitch of abundance and wealth unequalled by any country, but still our labouring poor were in a state of starvation; and surely there must be something very wrong when our abundance produced our disadvantage. Within his memory and practice, the labouring class amounted to 3,000,000, or one-fifth of the whole population. This state of things had greatly altered; for now an individual could produce fifty times the production of one of the former class 30 years ago. If we had but consumption for our productions, each man would be surrounded by affluence and wealth. One individual could produce food for 39 persons, besides himself; but many of those individuals could obtain no work, and were in a state of starvation. What was to be done? Were they to sit down contented with a temporary subscription, and then again suffer the poor to sink into starvation? No; it was their duty to see that each man had means of producing enough for himself. He had examined all that had been done or proposed to ameliorate the poor. In doing this, he had rejected every thing of a demoralizing nature; and he had brought scientific improvements of all kinds to assist him in his plan and to give comfort to his community. In conclusion, he would say, that by his plan pauperism and prisons would be in a short time unknown.

The Secretary (Mr. Crook) read the amount of subscriptions, among which were three of 5000*l.* each, from Colonel Hunter, of Dalziel; J. Morrison, Esq. and H. Jones, Esq. of Devon; and several more of 1200*l.* and 1000*l.*; but the greatest of all was 10,000*l.* from Robert Owen, Esq. There had been also 15,000*l.* subscribed in Edinburgh, Manchester and Birmingham.

Thanks were then voted to Lord Torrington and Mr. Owen, and the Meeting broke up.

#### Fashionable News.

London, June 3, 1822.—Yesterday the Duke of York paid a visit to His Majesty.

The Lord Chancellor and the Duke of Dorset had audiences of the King yesterday.

Yesterday Divine Service was performed to His Majesty's Household, at his Palace, in Pall mall, by the Rev. Dr. F. W. Blomberg.

On Saturday the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester had a numerous dinner party.

The Prince and Princess of Denmark, and the Prince Frederick of Holstein were at the evening party given on Wednesday evening by the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, in honour of the Princess Sophia Matilda's birth-day.

We understand that the Marchioness of Waterford wore the ancient Irish dress and Eagle plume at the Irish ball, in consequence of the Marquis of Waterford's descent from the Irish Kings; one of the Barons Le Poer, his Lordship's ancestors, having espoused the daughter of Brian Borohme, King of Ireland.

The Duke of Wellington was present at the grand ball on Thursday night, in a Field-Marshal's uniform, with a riband only and no star.

#### Police Report.

Bow-Street, June 1.—A person, of very gentlemanly exterior, who called himself a Captain in the army, was brought from the Hummums hotel, Covent-garden, to the Bow-street Police Office, under circumstances of rather an unusual description. On being placed before the Magistrates, he said, "I am a Gentleman, and let every one take care what they say or do. Mr. Harrison, the proprietor of the Hummums, is the aggressor. I charge him with assaulting me." Mr. Harrison retorted:—"I charge you with assaulting me." The Magistrate, after exercising a great deal of patience, elicited the following facts:—

The accused entered the Hummums tavern on Friday night, drank negus till bed-time, ordered a bed to be prepared, and went to bed. He rose next morning, took a bath, dressed, came down to breakfast, took cocoa, ham, tongue, eggs, and all the relishing etceteras, made a hearty breakfast, read the papers, and discussed politics. Shoes wanted translating—left them in his bed room—walked round Covent-garden market in the landlord's crimson slippers, to digest breakfast—called in at Paiba's, the shoe shop in Great Russell-street, tried on a pair of shoes, fitted well, told the boy to carry his slippers after him to the Hummums, and he would pay for his shoes, the boy followed him, was told on arriving at the Hummums, to come again in an hour; did so, found the Captain gone. Mr. Paiba afterwards called; met with the Captain; asked for the cash. "No shot in the locker," replied the Captain. Paiba takes the shoes off the Captain's feet. Mr. Harrison asks for his claim for bed, bath, breakfast, &c.—"I will pay you when it is convenient (replies the Captain) but not now. A gentleman worth 20,000*l.* cannot always keep cash about him; I bank at Drummond's, and I pledge my honour you shall be paid, and the word of a gentleman cannot be doubted." Mr. Harrison used the harsh term of—, and pushed violently with his elbows against the Captain. The latter seized the former by the collar—a scuffle ensued—the Captain, Paiba, and Harrison all go to Bow-street; a cross charge of assault is preferred by the Captain and Mr. Harrison, and the latter also charges the Captain with intending not to pay him his bill, which the Captain denies upon his honour as a gentleman. Mr. Paiba also charges the Captain with attempting to defraud him of a pair of shoes, which the Captain also denies; says he will pay—cannot say when, and admits that he has no money. Says he is a man of property: his mother is a lady of fortune; that he is well known at the Bedford, Richardson's, the Piazza, the Somerset, the Hungerford, New Exchange, the York, and other coffee-houses; and they would trust him to any amount; that he pays them when he has funds transmitted to him; and he expected Mr. Harrison, of the Hummums, would have paid Paiba for his paltry shoes, and he (the Captain) would have paid him again, when he settled his bill.

Mr. Paiba said, that having got his shoes again, he should not press his charge against the Captain, whom he verily believed was mad.

The Magistrate ordered the Captain, and also Mr. Harrison, to find bail for assaulting each other, and to appear at the Sessions to answer the charges they might prefer against each other. The Captain said he was first assaulted, and only acted on the defensive.

The Magistrate called "order;" and upon the Captain declaring "upon his honour," he would pay Mr. Harrison his bill, and giving references to his friends, who are very respectable, and promising not to go to the Hummums again, he was ordered to be discharged; but subsequently was held to bail.



**The Late Mr. Finnerty.**

It is with no ordinary regret that we announce the death of Mr. Peter Finnerty, 20 years a Parliamentary Reporter on this establishment. For some time his health had been on the decline, but always solicitous to perform his duties, it was only within the last month that the violence of his complaint compelled him to withdraw himself from the more active duties of his situation.—Mr. Finnerty, from the strength of his mind and the warmth of his feelings, has either so acted or suffered in the public events of his country, that such a man ought not to be allowed to descend to his grave as a common individual. He was the son of a tradesman of the town of Loughrea, in the county of Galway, who, with slender means, had reared and educated a numerous family. Mr. Finnerty, the eldest son, was in early age cast upon his fortunes in the metropolis of Ireland; brought up as a printer, he at the awful crisis of 1798, succeeded Mr. Arthur O'Connor as the printer of the most popular and ably conducted paper which ever appeared in that country—*The Press*. Such a situation naturally brought Mr. Finnerty into perilous contract with the irritated and coercive Government of that day. It was no ordinary predicament in which so young a man, being then scarcely of age, was placed. Under the process of the laws as then administered in Ireland, he was visited with all the penalties of a vindictive prosecution; and the property of the establishment was ultimately demolished by military force.—On his trial he had the honour of being defended by Mr. Curran, an advocate whose powers rose with the demands of his country for their exertion, and who seemed to have been destined to the great but dangerous distinction of displaying talents in the defence of virtue, commensurate to the wrongs which had called them forth. In that Court he charged the Government of that day with a vindictive warfare against the only printer who dared to whisper the liberties of Ireland. Mr. Finnerty was sentenced to a punishment more ignominious to the law than to the criminal, but had the honour of being attended by Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and many other public characters. The sentence was executed also under the bayonets of a large military force, but could not repress that burst of popular sympathy which attended the first address that he ever made to his suffering countrymen. He passed those dreadful years of 98 and 99 in the prison of Newgate, Dublin, where too frequently the guest of the breakfast table, as he himself has often described, was hurried forth to sudden execution. Such was the persecution with which he had to contend, in consequence of the subversion of his establishment, that he remained for months unemployed before he could obtain a passport for England! Arrived in London, he entered into an engagement on the Press, and commenced Parliamentary Reporting. The faithful and able manner in which he discharged the important duties of such a trust, is well known to all who have had any connection with the Press of the Metropolis. Having professionally attended the Court Martial which was held at Portsmouth, he became acquainted with Sir Home Popham, and an intimacy commenced which terminated only by his death. When the Expedition to Walcheren took place.—Mr. Finnerty, at the request of Sir Home, sailed with Captain Bartholomew from Woolwich, for the avowed purpose of writing the History of that Expedition. An order had, however, been circulated through the squadron in the Downs, to send Mr. Finnerty on shore, if found on board the fleet. This order was ineffectual, as Mr. F., unaware of its existence, had arrived at Walcheren, and on being made acquainted with it immediately waited upon the naval Commander-in-Chief. He was received with the greatest kindness, and after a delay of some weeks returned to England in a frigate. Under the irritation of feelings naturally excited by such a strange exercise of authority, he addressed, through this Paper, a letter to a Noble Member of the Administration, who held a conspicuous place in the recent and melancholy history of Ireland, reflecting upon his conduct and character. That Noble person immediately commenced a prosecution against the Publisher of this Journal; Mr. Finnerty, who had been repeatedly warned by the late Mr. Perry as to the consequences which would result from the publication of the letter, with the frankness and decision of character which belonged to him immediately requested that the manuscript should be given up, that the prosecution might affect only the real author. He allowed judgment to go by default; but on being brought up for judgment, he defended the libel on the ground of the provocations which he had received, as well as the truth of his allegations which he was then prepared with affidavits to sustain. He was sentenced to a long term of imprisonment that was so rigorously carried into effect, that his constitution received a shock from which it never recovered. While in prison by an appeal to Parliament, he produced an inquiry the result of which not only led to a mitigation of his own suffering, but to the general amelioration of the prison discipline. On his liberation, he resumed his duties with this Paper. His mind naturally strong and original, was invigorated by an experience of the world that enabled him, with no common acuteness, to perceive both the substance and the form of truth, and detect the sophistries of the most specious imposition. He had a natural eloquence of a vivid and masculine character, and his colloquial powers were peculiar and fascinating. But his leading characteristic was an instinctive hatred of oppression, whatever shape it assumed, or by whatever influence it was attempted to be enforced. We will mention one in-

stance. In the recent State Trials, Mr. Finnerty was the individual who first discovered that the infamous Thomas Reynolds, personally unknown to his brother Jurors, was actually a member of the Grand Jury of the Metropolitan County of England. No sooner was the fact ascertained, and, pending the trials in Westminster Hall, than he communicated the circumstance to a member of the House of Commons, who in consequence made a disclosure, the electric effect of which upon the House was only equalled by the indignation which it excited throughout the country. From the original formation of his mind, his unbending devotedness to the interests of his country, and hatred of its oppressors, he had drawn upon himself much political hostility; but for that he was amply compensated by having the good fortune to enjoy the proud distinction of being known to Mr. Fox, Whitbread, and Sir Samuel Romilly, and of having, as his personal and intimate friend, Mr. Curran, Mr. Sheridan, and Mr. Grattan, as well as some of the most eminent public men now living. Having made this plain and simple statement, we have only to add, that while the memory of Mr. Finnerty is identified with the history of his country, it will long be cherished by those associates, who, having had the best opportunity of knowing his good qualities, have the most reason to deplore his loss.

**Fine Arts.—Poetry.**

TO BERNARD BARTON.

SIR,—The mention of your Poem, entitled "NAPOLEON," in my favourite Paper, *THE TRUE BRITON*, induced me to give it a perusal. While I am willing to confess that the critique upon it was pretty, I shall not hesitate to add that it did not fitly enter upon the subject, which it rather seemed to pass by. Your object, as a Quaker, being to deprecate all wars, on Christian principles, I shall quote verse 39.

His blessing ev'nd revert we to our theme.  
And let us humbly ask ourselves, what right  
The Christian has, upon the Gospel Scheme,  
To employ of force, the all unhallow'd might,  
And wrong unmerited, for wrong requite?  
My kingdom is not of this world, if true  
THE SAVIOUR said, then would my followers fight:  
And can we who profess his name to bear,  
In spite of his commands, for murderous strife prepare.

Now Sir, as my kingdom is of this world, which I humbly hope and believe will not exclude me from a better, I conceive that the very words of our SAVIOUR, justify me in going to war when the rights or wrong of the Kingdom, which the King of Kings has intrusted me with require it.

June 1, 1822.

**A TEMPORAL PRINCE.**

P. S.—The Episode, verse 59 to 76, descriptive of a rural scene, is both poetical and pathetic. It truly and sweetly describes

How much there is of beauty to allure  
In peaceful quietude.—

The contrast

When war's destroying anger there has been;  
Judiciously occupies only four verses, leaving imagination to fill up the outline.

"We know but this—they were! and here are not!"

Bernard Barton shows himself to be no less a Christian patriot than a Christian poet; and the purest moral and religious sentiments pervade the whole poem. It is not without poetic faults and weaknesses; but they are not such as require to be particularized. Similar beauties of poetry and propriety are scattered among the "Minor Poems." The whole will well repay perusal.

[We hope to be honoured with the continued partiality and communications of this illustrious correspondent.—EDITOR.]

**MARRIAGES.**

On the 19th of April, at Newmarket-on-Fergus, county of Clare David Falconer, of the Honourable East India Company's service, to Miss Fraser.

On Saturday, the 18th May, at St. George's, Bloomsbury, Thomas Parker, second son of James Lowe, Esq. of the East India House, to Anne, only daughter of Mr. James Cadwallader Parker, of Spur-street, Leicester-square.

On the 14th May, George Lewrance, watchmaker, Rotherhithe, to Mrs. Ann Hunt, widow of Philip Hunt, Esq. late of Calcutta.

**DEATH.**

Lord Kingsale.—Lately, at his lodgings on the North Grand Parade, Cork, to which he had gone for medical assistance, the Right Hon. John De Courcy, Lord Kingsale, Baron of Ireland. He is succeeded in his titles by his eldest son, the Hon. and Rev. De Courcy,

**Use and Abuse of the Press.**

Heaven sent the PRESS to awe a guilty age,  
And lash the Vices with a noble rage;  
Warn'd by the fate of Greece and Rome undone,  
Each wild extreme of party-heat to shun;  
To bid the brazen roar of battle cease,  
And join mankind in holy leagues of peace;  
With the deep thunder of her fearless tone,  
To drive contending factions from the throne;  
Check evil counsels; guard the common weal,  
And fill the Royal mind with patriot zeal;  
These are her virtuous tasks:—but these not all  
The mighty claims that for her labours call.  
'Tis hers the cause of suffering realms to plead,  
And lend to Justice an impartial aid;  
Against Invasion's sword to arm the brave,  
And break the galling fetters of the slave;  
With fair applause to fan the generous flame,  
When Art and Science woo the meed of Fame;  
To smooth their path, their anxious toils repay,  
And lead them forth from darkness into day;  
Strike their fell foe, malignant Envy, down,  
And vote to Merit an unfading crown.  
Still the proud QUEEN of ISLANDS, as of old,  
Disdains to barter liberty for gold;  
Her Britons still their sacred birthright prize,  
Chief good of all beneath the spacious skies;  
And still the lofty brow, the dauntless mien,  
The soul amidst contending storms serene,  
The scorn of lawless power, the martial fires,  
Prove the brave sons the copy of their sires;  
Of those, whose van on *Themis's* fair stream,  
Of mail-clad warriors cast a steely gleam,  
What time their warlike bands the barons led,  
In the broad field of glorious RUNNYMEAD;  
With frowning pride the Lion-flag unfurl'd,  
And set a lesson to the wandering world;  
Struck the fierce breast of faithless JOHN with awe,  
And won the immortal charter of the law.  
Though still the PRESS, to her high mission true,  
Pour her whole thunder on the guilty crew;  
Kings, nobles, factions, in their turns, appal,  
And wield a fiery vengeance over all;  
Yet when Corruption threatens all the land,  
And the vile traffic speeds from hand to hand;  
When her grave factors the debate prolong,  
To weigh the profits, not the right or wrong;  
The Press, perverted in an evil hour,  
Becomes an engine of oppressive power;  
To make the worse appear the better cause,  
And sap the strong foundation of the laws.  
And, oft debased by Mammon's greedy train,  
Sinks to a hacknied instrument of gain;  
Plies in the market at an easy price,  
The prostitute of falsehood, fraud, and vice;  
The coward's\* weapon, and the ready tool  
Of every smooth impostor, knave, and fool;  
By day, by night, their deadly libels strike  
The fair repute of every rank alike;  
With innuendoes spot the virgin's fame,  
And doom the weeping innocent to shame;  
Spread black inventions through the busy town,  
To rob a hero of his just renown;  
Malign the patriot, and their venom shed  
On the meek preacher of the gospel's head;  
The great and good, the lov'd and honour'd most,  
The friends of freedom, and their country's boast,  
At once, to scorn and calumny they doom,  
Nor spare the ROYAL VICTIM in her tomb.

Liverpool, May 20, 1822.

Oh, ho, JOHN BULL, you're quite mistaken,  
The sentence of an honest jury  
Will cure your mad, calumnious fury;  
Take warning by your brother BEACON.

**DEATHS.**

Mr. Jonathan Huxley, of Wood-street, Cheapside, aged 25.  
At Camberwell, Mr. John Clarkson, formerly of Gibraltar, and  
late of London street, Fenchurch-street, merchant.  
At his house in Hackney-grove, Mr. Joseph Spurrell, in the 80th  
year of his age.

**Miss O'Neil.**

*Lines by Charles Phillips, Esq. addressed to Miss O'Neil.*

But see within her garden bower  
The lovely Juliet pensive lean;  
Herself, the fairest, sweetest, flower,  
That ever graced the "Isle of Green!"  
Oh! she is lovely to behold,  
With eye of blue and braid of gold!  
Her bosom is pure as the virgin-snows!  
Her blush and her breath—they have rifled the rose!  
Her voice has the thrill of the nightingale's sigh!  
Young Love holds his palace of light in her eye!  
And her mien has the cygnet's majesty!  
No, never yet, did beauty mould  
A temple more divinely fair;  
No, never yet did temple fold  
Such virtues as are cherished there.  
Sweet girl! a nation's loud acclaim  
Echoes the worship of thy name:  
Birth before thee bends the knee,  
The gay unbend their wreaths for thee,  
And genius yields thee up his throne,  
Lest beauty call thee all her own.  
But nobler wreaths shall grace thy brow  
Than all the world could weave for thee;  
Wreaths, to outlive the fleeting vow  
Of fashion's frail idolatry!  
When all the hearts that beat before thee,  
When all the tongues that now adore thee,  
Shall fade, and no more traces leave  
Than the wild flower their love would weave,  
The evening of a parent's days.  
Cheered by affection's loveliest rays,  
Shall beam a blessed wreath of light,  
(Wove in heav'n's own garden bright)  
So pure round thee—  
Its foliage will for ever shine,  
From envy's eye, with light divine,  
Shading thy spotless memory!

**STANZAS.**

Too late I staid: forgive the crime;  
Unheeded flew the hours;  
For noiseless falls the foot of time  
That only treads on flowers.

**II.**

Oh! who, with clear account, remarks  
The ebbing of his glass;  
When all its sands are diamond sparks  
That dazzle as they pass.

**III.**

And who to sober measurement  
Time's happy swiftness brings?  
When birds of paradise have lent  
The plumage of their wings.

**IV.**

Too late I staid: forgive the crime;  
Unheeded flew the hours;  
For noiseless falls the foot of time  
That only treads on flowers.

**DEATH.**

*Death of Viscount Bulkeley.*—We are concerned to have to announce the sudden death of that truly respectable nobleman, Viscount Bulkeley, who departed this life at nine o'clock on Monday June 3, at his seat, Englefield Green, Berkshire. His Lordship, previous to his sudden attack, had complained in the morning of a sore throat, but nothing serious was apprehended, as he intended going to London on that day, to join a select party of his friends at his residence in Stanhope-street, May-fair. His Lordship's titles were, Viscount Bulkeley, of Cashel, in the county of Tipperary, Lord Bulkeley, Baron Beaumaris, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Carnarvon, Chamberlain and Chancellor of North Wales, and Hereditary Constable of Beaumaris Castle. He was born Dec. 10. 1752, and married, in 1777, Elizabeth Harriet, only daughter and sole heiress of Sir George Warren.—Her apparent, None.



## Settlement of Singapore.

*To the Editor of the Journal.*

SIR,

The following is a Sketch from the Memoranda of an old Correspondent;—if you think it worth accepting, I may perhaps send you from time to time some more.—Yours, &c.

H. P.

*Singapore.*—I think it is Tacitus who has said that "where the Roman conquers he inhabits;"—it is a purer praise to say of the Briton that "where he inhabits he conquers"—and no where have I seen this so well exemplified as in the New Settlement of Singapore.

It is a proud and a heart cheering sight to see the forest recede before the axe of the Colonist, to behold the waste smile with plenty, and the haunt of the Pirate become the busy scene of commercial activity—to step on shore and find oneself welcomed on all sides by friends and countrymen with "bland and cheering hospitality." These are scenes—but the delineation is not complete; let the stranger quit the town and follow any of the paths which lead from it; on all sides are cottages and enclosures starting up as by enchantment; the pepper and betel are trailing their beautiful tendrils round the rifted trunk, yet scathed with fire or with the axe of the settler, the water-melon has covered the lowly roof of the shed with its broad spreading leaves, the bread-fruit, the manioc, the betel, the yam, and thousands of others are springing fresh from earth, and last, though not least, the mighty master of this,—Man himself, has learnt, that his best interest is in the exercise of patient industry; he is bound to the soil which his labour has cultivated by a thousand ties, which like the tendrils of the climbing jasmine sweeten while they attach him to his home. Morn dawns but to call him to a repetition of his labour it is true, but when evening comes "rejoicing in her loveliness," that heart must be cold indeed which does not feel how well the labour is repaid by the rest.

This is no fiction, where we hourly see the wild Malay and the Chinese rearing their butts amidst the solitude of the forest and labouring severely, without any taskmasters, but the desire of procuring comforts; we may suppose them to feel something like this though they do not express it.

These are scenes which do not often occur in life, it falls to the lot of few of us to witness them, and they are scenes of that nature which alike affect our feelings as men and as Britons, as men to behold new resources opened for the supply of the wants and luxuries of our fellow creatures, and as Britons to behold our flag wave over a settlement which by almost commanding the principal routes to China insures us an advantage in a market which comprehends at least one-fourth of the population of the globe.

Placed on a rich soil and in a picturesquely beautiful position, in the centre of a fine strait which is one vast harbour, and surrounded by fertile though yet uncultivated tracts of land, this little spot bids fair to become one day a vast commercial and agricultural establishment, perhaps inferior only to Calcutta. Its central position with respect to India, China, Java and the Eastern Islands, assures this, and independent of its physical advantages it can but derive some and perhaps no little accession of strength from its moral ones. It will be no trifling circumstance that it offers a government "where all are equal before the law," in the midst of countries where law is unknown, and thus becomes a city of refuge where there was none to save, and an altar to freedom where all had bowed to slavery. Such spots are, to use the emphatic language of Burke, "the green sod of the soul on which the eye loves to rest after wandering over the rough landscape of human life."

If the future civilization of that oppressed but numerous class of our fellow men who inhabit this interesting portion of the globe be accomplished, it must be by free establishments, aiming not at empire, seeking for no patronage, but having a just and due political influence over the surrounding states, sufficient to control, but

not to debase them; this, with an unrestrained commercial intercourse, must be the basis of our prosperity and of their civilization. The Dutch do not civilize; they trample on the Native, they are a nation yet fettered by the ancient rules of our intercourse with the Malay nations. A tale which wants only records and magnitude to place it by the side of those of the New World.

The preference given to us by the Natives is well known, and it arises from their conviction of the superiority of our moral character to that of our Batavian rivals: of this no better proof can be given than in the revolts in the Moluccas in 1817, which had nearly ended in the expulsion of the Dutch from those Islands; the brave but unfortunate islanders not only fought under an English flag, but constantly declared their intention of placing themselves under the protection of the British.

*The Dutch.*—Political faith is said to have no existence, and these people have certainly shown that political modesty has none with them. With an impudence exceeding the bounds of credibility, they not only claimed the New Settlement, but one of their Governors, threatened to drive us away from it. This is a specimen of what they would do; it remains to be seen what they will do, or rather what they will be allowed to do, for the question is reduced to whether we are to allow them to drive us from a valuable mart for our manufacturers, and under the same pretext from every part of the Indian Archipelago or not, and this in return for the constant assistance afforded them in their struggles in Europe, and the gift of the Island of Java, the first Colony in world, and one which annually remits above a million of guilders to the mother country.

But there exists a party of men at home who, prosing on these questions, say, "but the Dutch have a right to this Colony, it is included in their treaty with the Native Princes." If it be a question of right, that is such rights as are recognised betwixt the civilized nations of Europe, we have none of us a right to it, for the Dutch treaty is in all probability forged or extorted by force, and in this case, we too have a treaty which rests on much clearer grounds on the voluntary cession of that part of the Island by the reigning Prince, in consideration of a monthly stipend, it may be called a rent. But this does not appear to me to be the ground on which the best rights of either party are founded, for that will probably be found in the following proposition, viz. that men having all an equal share in the fruits of the earth, those in whose part population is most dense and the means of subsistence fewer, have a natural right to a share of those parts, where these means are found to be more plentiful.

With this view of the subject, we have an equal right with our neighbours, and to it we may add that of priority of occupation, and the right derived from the necessity of assuring ourselves of a guarantee against the interruption of our China trade, which for a century past has been an eye sore to every nation in Europe. Our national character too would suffer no little degradation in the eyes of the Natives, were we to submit to this demand, which the Dutch have insolently trumpeted throughout the Archipelago, to say nothing of the circumstance of an apparent deceit in first hoisting and then abandoning our flag. Surely, with these considerations, his Majesty's Ministers cannot for a moment contemplate the abandonment of this important Colony. Surely, at an epoch when the distress of all classes has so far reached its maximum, that such men as Mr. Brougham, Ricardo, and others have declared, they almost despair of being able to effect any permanent amelioration, it cannot surely be at such an epoch that we abandon a most valuable mart for our goods, and an important key to our Eastern commerce; and to whom? to the very people who after enormous efforts on our part in their cause, take advantage of our too well-known weakness, to extort from us by bullying or cajolment what they dare not and cannot get by other means. There is "something too much of this," and those who know the relative situation of our interests and the deep share which we have at stake will say at once "that the Minister who abandons Singapore should be impeached!"

If we do not secure ourselves a mart, we shall end by being expelled from that quarter of the globe, and we shall richly deserve it for our folly: our manufactures are even now next to prohibited by the excessive duties laid on them. And then we are told by our *worthy* neighbours that in our continental struggles "we were serving ourselves and not them." Every person who wishes to disown an obligation accuses his benefactor of selfish or ostentatious motive; for when the heart is once seared to the better feelings such excuses are easily found. But, say the Machiavelists, these feelings have no place in Cabinets;—then they *should* have, and mankind would be the better for it, or at least we may learn from thence the folly of punctilios with a people who have requited our delicacy towards them by the most unprincipled conduct.

To conclude, for this has extended to greater length than was intended;—Long, very long, may our red cross standard prove the signal of rational and enlightened freedom, and the harbinger of civilization,—*"Peace on earth, and good will toward men,"* and though the dark-rolling tide of Time, and that inscrutable course of events comprehensible only to the Omnipotent may number England "with the nations that were;" yet shall our spirit live in those to whom we have given birth, and (to use the oft-quoted distich of the Persian Poet) "when the spider has wove his web in the hall and the owl sung his watch song in our palaces," the blue wave of ocean shall roll round islands and empires which hail us as their common parents—who look to our history as theirs, and whose children, whatever be their political or religious creeds, shall call on the mighty spirit of England as *"The Mother of Nations."*

### Order of the Bath.

"To sigh for Ribauds, if thou art so silly  
Mark how they grace!"—Jack, Tom, and Billy.—POPE AND CO.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I have been a good deal amused with those discussions which have lately and frequently been introduced to the public notice through your columns concerning what is *peculiarly* designated in India "the Military Order of the Bath."

One OLD INDIAN in the Guzerat finds out that it is no "Order of Merit," but "an Order of Rank and Interest," a bold assertion, which might be taken up as a Libel on the Order, and those who instituted it. Another, who evidently belongs to the Order, calmly expresses his surprise that any man should be found so bold as to question the distinguished merit and services of every Officer who wears the badge, whether it be the positive, comparative, or superlative degree of it.

For my part, as I am averse to all sorts of personal allusions, and at the same time a great lover of truth and plain dealing, by no means approving the principle on which this order has been distributed among us; I would strongly recommend the man who says "it is not an Order of Merit, but of Interest" to shew in a temperate essay on the subject the grounds on which he has formed such an opinion, and on the other hand let him who asserts that "none but men who have performed such and such feats in the field have attained the lowest degree of the Order in Bengal or the other Presidencies of India," lay before the public, (as the Army List lays it before them in England) not only the names of every member of the Order, but an abstract of the distinguished services for which they were raised to it.

It would then be seen whether or not "the Rules of the Order" as established, and pretty strictly acted upon in Europe, have been the scale by which the qualifications for admission to the different degrees of the Order have been measured in India.

These qualifications are easily told, and the clearer they are understood the better for those who enjoy as well as those who aspire to the honor of the Bath. To be made a C. B. in the first place, requires that it should be "a Field Officer." In the second

place that this Field Officer should have "commanded at least a Battalion in some actual engagement with the Enemy, or be at the Head of some Staff department, in what may fairly and unblushingly be called, a *General Action*." Thirdly, all this is not enough to make him a C. B. if not "honorably mentioned for some distinguished service in a public despatch from the field of action." Such are as well as I can recollect the rules for making C. B.'s. Now the receipt laid down for making a K. C. B. was originally "to have held a Command or been Head of a Staff department in no less than *Five General Actions*." The rules have latterly restricted this order to "General Officers," but I do not know that the five general actions have been taken out of the test of the Hero's claim to Knighthood.

There can be no doubt that the above Rules of the Order, have not been strictly acted upon in India in any one degree of the Order, and in my opinion in many cases most judiciously. But, what has surprised me is, that if the Rules do admit of exceptions, why they should not be pointedly made in favour of men whose uncommonly distinguished bravery in the field have drawn upon them the most singular applauses of their Commanders and Companions in Arms in every direction. What I here say is peculiarly applicable to two distinguished Officers so often honorably mentioned in your JOURNAL, Major Staunton and Captain Fitzgerald. It is only wonderful to me that these men were not on the spur of the moment made Grand-Crosses. Surely as Heroes they would have done honor to the class, yet have they not even been offered the distinction of C. B. It does not rest with our present Noble Commander in Chief, or assuredly they would have been long since, and where is the C. B. who would not be proud of such associates? But "they were not Field Officers at the time," is the answer. What was the Commissary General Morrison when he earned the honor of C. B.? only a Captain in reality; so was Staunton only a Captain when he fought with nearly a General's Command, the memorable action of Korygaum, engaged hard nearly at the point of the bayonet 18 to 20 hours, after two forced marches against some 30,000 of the Peishwa's élite. Yet, this poor man was only a Captain. So I believe were the gallant Noble and some more C. B.'s, who do honor to the Order, on the Madras List, when they performed actions which it was acknowledged by all the Authorities, fairly won them the honors which they wear.

I am, Sir, an admirer of real merit,

— ARISTOPHANES.

P. S.—It deserves to be well noted on this subject, for the consolation of those whose merits have been overlooked, or not proportionably rewarded, as well as for others who despise the badge of distinction out of their contempt for other members who never fairly or honorably earned it, that let a man go into what society he may, no badge of distinction will make him respected if he is indebted merely to court favours and the exaggerated applauses of a set of friends who are intermutually associated and interested in exalting each other.

It is truly ridiculous to hear tell of the *services and exploits* never beheld by any of their companions in arms, which have raised some Officers to honours which were clearly intended only for men, whose praise-worthy and gallant deeds had been seen by many and acknowledged by all. No less painful and humiliating to orders and distinctions, is it to perceive, that while the name (often vain boast) of being within the hearing of cannon in a general action, has been enough to obtain honorary distinctions for Field Officers with *good interest*, the best interest cannot obtain one badge of distinction for the Captain or Subaltern ranks, were it another Leonidas who performed deeds to astonish the world. Surely in a Government so just and wise as that of Great Britain, it can only be necessary to point out such things to have them remedied! and even if a Gallant Doctor, hard pressed as the modest unassuming Wylie was, with a few companions, in a desperate action, should distinguish himself foremost in the long contested fight (Korygaum), he also ought to be rewarded.

A.—



# Duels and Logic.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

In your Paper of the 18th of Sept. is a letter by MARCUS upon the subject of Duelling, in which he comments upon my letter on the same subject. He says my assertions are strung together, without regard to the commonest principles of Logic; I cannot deny this, for at the time I was writing, I thought but little of Majors, or Minors; but MARCUS appears to me to run into the opposite extreme, for in his admiration of ratiocination, premises and conclusions, he cavils rather at the words than the spirit of my letter, for the sentiments I expressed were contained rather in the body of the letter, than in any particular part.

MARCUS says he does not know what those high sounding names of nominal Christians are, "who have disgraced their Religion, by a blind submission to forms, which neither reason, nor custom, can authorise our following." In making use of the expression, I alluded to those Christians of high rank, who by their practice have countenanced a custom, which is contrary to the spirit and letter of our Religion: As a recent instance in point, I would mention the late Duel between the Dukes of Buckingham and Bedford; were the remarks of the Duke of Bedford the less true from the Duke of Buckingham having challenged him? would the Duke of Buckingham, having killed the Duke of Bedford, have enabled him as a public man, to appear with more honor? or were the opinions of either party altered, by this *ouager of battle*? and if not, where was the Reason or Religion in this Duel?

MARCUS speaks highly of the beneficial effects resulting from Duelling, and it is with reluctance I admit that there is but too much truth in what he says; I say with reluctance, for I cannot but lament that the indulgence of our unbridled passions should so often render an appeal to violence necessary; but are we always to remain in our present state? Is neither reason, nor religion ever to influence our conduct? I am not an optimist, and hope for better times and better things, and that the voice of truth and reason may yet prevail.

MARCUS says, before the practice of Duelling was introduced, private quarrels were turned into public feuds, and thousands perished to consummate the vengeance of individuals; this I admit, and wish that Duelling could remove all the evils of private feuds; but we still continue to kill our thousands and tens of thousands, for the sake of individuals: What natural hatred has a Frenchman to an Englishman? he has none, but what is the effect of education; but two great men will perhaps dispute whether the egg should be broken at the large or the small end, and to settle this dispute, some few hundred thousand men, without the slightest personal animosity, will cut each others throats; being, in this respect, much worse than beasts of the forest, for "Les lions ne font point la guerre aux lions, ni les tigres aux tigres: ils n'attaquent que les animaux d'espèce différente: l'homme seul, malgré sa raison, fait ce que les animaux sans raison ne feroient jamais."

MARCUS does me justice when he supposes I was anxious to convey my opinion of persons, who, knowing the right course, pursue the road of error, rather than encounter public clamour; and his having thought otherwise, was from my not having repeated the word "often," after the words, "I maintain that it is." I do not say that a man is coward for risking his life in a just cause; but I must first be convinced that it is a just, and not a ridiculous cause.

MARCUS wishes it were possible, with advantage to the public, to expunge from our laws the punishment for capital offences; I hope his wish may in a great measure be realized; more Sir Samuel Romillys may yet arise; and I hope ere long, we shall be convinced, that severity of punishment does not diminish crime; and that England may no longer be reproached for her Draconian Laws; in this respect we may learn wisdom from other nations; but some of our own countrymen (and Mill not the least) could point out the way, if we were but willing to follow it.

I find I am greatly exceeding the limits of a Newspaper; should MARCUS come into my neighbourhood I should be happy to enter into a logical discussion of these subjects, but I will not fight a Duel with him, for though neither dead to shame nor virtue, I am still

AN ANTI-DUELLIST.

## Stock and Value of Indigo.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

I observe in the Journal of the 20th of September a statement, estimating the Indigo of this season at 1,13,300 maunds, on which I beg to make the following remarks:—

The districts of Dacca and Jessore (the two principal Indigo districts in India,) have entirely failed this season. Purneah has likewise totally failed, and Maldah and Rungpore have done but very indifferently, while Tirhoot has not made much above one half of the quantity expected at the early part of the season. The upper provinces which had been put down at 45, or 50,000 maunds even at a late period, have since suffered so severely from the excessive rains that fell in August, that Planters themselves did not expect above 20,000 maunds, and even this quantity it was not at all certain they would realize, as, according to the latest accounts, the weather still continued very unfavourable.

From all that I have here stated, your commercial readers may, I think, form the conclusion that the quantity of Indigo thrown into the market this season from all parts of the country, instead of amounting to 1,13,000 maunds, will not even equal that of last season, but probably turn out about 85,000 maunds. If to this circumstance be added the loss of the large quantity of Indigo in the FAME on its way to the London market, it is natural to suppose that the prices at home must rise considerably, the moment that the above intelligence arrives, and it ought no doubt to have the same effect on the India market.

In short, my object in now addressing you is to warn the Indigo Planters, *not to give in*, but to insist on prices equal to those already obtained. 295 has been given for common Tirhoot and Rungpore Indigo, and rather than take less for what still remains unsold. I recommend their shipping their produce to France, where I can assure them they will obtain from 11 to 12 shillings per lb.

I am, your's obediently,

Oct. 1, 1822.

Madras.

TRUE BLUE.

Madras, Oct. 1, 1822.—His Majesty's Ship *GLASGOW* sailed on Saturday for Penang, where she will remain till the middle of next month and then proceed to Calcutta for the Governor-General.

The Honorable Company's Cruiser *ERNAUD* sailed from Sangor on the 10th ult. with the destination and purpose announced in our last.

The *BENGAL MERCHANT* continued her voyage for Bengal on Sunday, —the *APTELL* yesterday; and the *LADY RAFFLES* and *AGINCOURT* will follow with the same destination to-day or to-morrow.

The *WINDSON CASTLE* is almost ready for Sea, and will probably sail for England about the end of the week. The *NANCY* will call her before the Monsoon on her way home.

The Hon. Company's Ship *DUCHESS OF ATHOL* bound for China was still detained at Sangor for want of hands. She must now go the Eastern Passage from the lateness of the season.

The Honorable the Governor and Suite were all well on the south bank of the Kistnah River on the 25th ultimo, and expected to reach Guiltor the 27th or 28th September.

## CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, OCTOBER 16, 1822.

|  | BUY...   | SELL  |
|--|----------|-------|
| Remittable Loans, .....  | Rs. 20 0 | 19 8  |
| Unremittable ditto, .....  | 12 8     | 12 2  |
| Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for }<br>12 Months, dated 31st of December 1821, .... | 28 0     | 27 0  |
| Ditto, for 12 Months, dated 30th of June 1822, ....  | 26 0     | 25 0  |
| Ditto, for 18 Months, dated 30th of April, ....  | 23 8     | 22 8  |
| Bank Shares, .....   | 4600     | 4500  |
| Spanish Dollars, per 100, .....  | 295 0    | 295 8 |

**Immolations in India.***To the Editor of the Journal.*

Sir,

The subject of the Immolations in India has been again and again brought forward, and these horrible, most horrible, practices have excited detestation and pity in every breast containing a particle of Christian feeling. Notwithstanding, however, this impression, nothing is done: all our sympathies terminate in unprofitable lamentations; the case is viewed as one for which there is no remedy, at least at present; and we read of a thousand widows being roasted alive, every year, in British India in open day, and in the presence of crowds of spectators, as though it were to Britons, what it is to the Hindoos, a mere tumshu.

I will not enter into the question whether the local Governments of India could safely, by a police regulation, or by an act of legislation, put out these infernal fires. But one thing, I think, is within the power of the Friends of Humanity, the Friends of the Sex in Calcutta, and that is, to enlighten the minds of the Hindoo Gentlemen in the Metropolis of India on the immoral, anti-social, and murderous nature of these Immolations. And could these gentlemen be enlightend, and gained over to the cause of benevolence on this subject, and be brought to petition the Government for the suppression of these practices, all the difficulties in the way of their abolition would be removed; for we cannot doubt but that every member of the Government deploras that such dreadful crimes should exist under an administration to which he is attached. It is not want of feeling or sensibility that prevents the interposition of the arm of power, but the fear of alienating the minds of our Native subjects, and the recollection that we are under a solemn pledge to govern the Hindoos by their own laws. But should the most enlightened of the Hindoos entreat that this foul blot on their laws may be removed, the scruples of Government will be removed, and all those widows annually put to a horrid death will be saved, and their hearts made to sing for joy.

This then appears to be the most safe and effectual way of abolishing these Immolations, to secure the illumination of the Hindoo Gentlemen throughout the country. On this subject I would propose,—

That a Society be formed in Calcutta for this express object, for writing, printing, and putting into circulation, mild, persuasive, and very respectful representations on the behalf of these widows and their orphan children.

I would propose that the name of this Society should be "The Hindoo Widow Preservation Society."

Its operations should be confined to this simple object, the illumination of the Hindoo mind on this exclusive subject, by publishing accounts of these Immolations, with their attendant horrors; of the success of efforts to save the Infants of the Rajpoots, and of the Natives of Bengal and Orissa, formerly sacrificed at Saugur; Essays on the immoral nature of those Immolations, and their consequent offensiveness to the Deity, &c. &c.

The Natives themselves should be pressed to join the Society, and become members of the Committee: and as such a union requires no sacrifices of religious prejudices, it is not improbable but that the benevolence of the object would conciliate them and secure their co-operation.

Should these remarks draw the attention of any gentlemen in Calcutta, and a desire to form such a Society be excited, the writer of this article (having left his name with the Printer) will be most happy to contribute all in his power to the furtherance of the object.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,

October 13, 1822.

A. T.

**NOTE OF THE EDITOR.**

The case is here so plainly and yet so effectually stated, that we have only to add the assurance of our hearty concurrence in this benevolent object, and shall rejoice in its success.

**New Governor General.**

Private Letters from Madras mention that the Governor of that Presidency had received Letters from Mr. Canning, stating it as his intention to be in Bengal in February next, touching at the Cape in his way, but not visiting Madras.

**Shipping Arrivals.**

| CALCUTTA. |                   |         |               |              |          |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|---------------|--------------|----------|
| Date      | Names of Vessels  | Flags   | Commanders    | From Whence  | Left     |
| Oct. 16   | Agin Court        | British | J. Mahon      | London       | April 14 |
| 16        | Almorah           | British | T. Winter     | Port Jackson | June 24  |
| 16        | Neptune           | British | W. E. Edwards | Batavia      | Aug. 4   |
| 16        | Pallas            | British | W. Holmes, P. | of W. Island | Sept. 16 |
| 16        | Governor Phillips | British | T. S. Maingy  | N. S. Wales  | Apr. 15  |
| 16        | Fazarobany        | Arab    | Alibapan      | Judda        | Aug. 15  |
| 16        | Melleckel Bhur    | Arab    | Hamit Rozam   | Bombay       | Sept. 4  |

**Stations of Vessels in the River.**

CALCUTTA, OCTOBER 15, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—H. C. S. ASTELL,—EXMOUTH, and ATLET ROHOMANY, (Arab), inward-bound, remain,—FELICITAS, outward-bound, remains,—GLOCESTER, passed up,—GEORGIANA, FAZA ROBANY, (Arab), and NANCY, (F.) inward-bound, remain.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships PRINCE REGENTY, and ASIA.

The TRIUMF AMERICANO (P.) and MARY (Schn.) arrived off Calcutta on Tuesday.

**Marriages.**

On the 12th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend J. PARSON, Lieutenant T. BETTS, to Miss CHARLOTTE BETTS.

On the 12th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend J. PARSON, Mr. JOHN BRODIE, to Mrs. ISABELLA ROSS.

On the 12th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend J. PARSON, Mr. NICHOLAS BURGESS, to Miss MARY VESSEY.

**Birth.**

At Moorshedabad, on the 31st of July, the Lady of A. N. FORD, Esq. of a Son.

**Deaths.**

On the 10th instant, of a Fever, which baffled all Medical Skill, J. HENDERSON, Esq. He was of an excellent disposition, a warm friend and of extensive erudition. His loss is deeply felt by several who knew his real worth and who will ever mourn his untimely end.

At Dacca, on the 9th instant, of a Fever, Mr. JOHN JOSEPH JORDAN, aged 21 years. He was a young man possessed of very amiable and engaging qualities, combined with virtuous principles, which had endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He has left a circle of relations and acquaintances to mourn his untimely end.

On the 7th instant, HUGH HOPE, Esq. of the Honorable Company's Civil Service.

**Commercial Reports.**

(From the Calcutta Exchange Price Current of Thursday last.)

Exports from Calcutta from the 1st to the 30th of Sept. 1822.

|                              |                |       |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| Sugar, to London,.....       | bags           | 2237  |
| Liverpool,.....              |                | 8465  |
| Saltpetre, to London,.....   |                | 16911 |
| Rice, to London,.....        |                | 3627  |
| Dry Ginger, to London,.....  |                | 500   |
| Piece Goods, to London,..... | pieces         | 1144  |
| Silk, to London,.....        | bazar maunds   | 250   |
| Liverpool,.....              |                | 18    |
| Indigo, to London,.....      | factory maunds | 486   |

Importation of Bullion, from the 1st to the 30th of Sept. 1822.

|                                 | SILVER      |     | GOLD     |     | TOTAL       |     |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-----|----------|-----|-------------|-----|
|                                 | Sa.         | Rs. | Sa.      | Rs. | Sa.         | Rs. |
| From 1st to the 30th of Sept... | 7,86,840    |     | 49,401   |     | 8,36,241    |     |
| Previously this year,.....      | 1,41,52,360 |     | 6,96,217 |     | 1,48,48,577 |     |
| Total,.....                     | 1,49,39,200 |     | 7,45,618 |     | 1,56,84,818 |     |

The Exchange is taken at the Custom House rate, viz. 16 Rupees to the £ Sterling, and 2½ Rupees per Spanish Dollar,